THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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Summary of News.

Monday, 13th April.

THE case of defamation against Babu Mohendronath Chatterjee, Editor and Proprietor of the *Eastern Herald*, published at Mhow, brought byCaptain Franks, English Secretary to the Maharaja Holkar, was heard on Thursday before last by Mr Tuckert he Sessions Judge. Mr. Inverarity appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Branson for the defence. Evidence was given to show that the paper not having sufficient circulation can hardly live upon subscriptions alone ; that it has secured no profits since its commencement in 1887 ; that Manuel who was convicted and sentenced by Prince Wahidudin, the Residency Magistrate, twelve days ago for defaming Captain Franks in the *Eastern Herald* by writing two letters in February last, wrote them after making vain attempts to get money ; that Mr. Chatterjee by printing Manuel's letters and an unfair account of Manuel's case made himself liable. It was urged in defence that Mr. Chatterjee was not aware that Manuel's letters were defamatory ; that he published them in good faith, believing them to be true ; that if the court held them to be defamatory, he expressed regret for them. The Judge, we have been grieved to learn, disagreeing with the assessors, convicted Babu Mohendranath Chatterjee, sentencing him to nine months' imprisonment, and a fine of Rs. 1500.

A STRONG police force is being collected at Kohat, and a detachment will be sent from Delhi. Mr. Bi[illegible], Assistant Superintendent of the Delhi police, has been directed to proceed to Kohat at once.

WE are much concerned to learn that the Northbrook Club is going to be dissolved. A London correspondent writes:—"In view of the financial straits of the club Lord Northbrook guaranteed the expenses of management this year up to £250 ; and already his [illegible] has been called upon to find a large portion of this, although this is the part of the year in which members' subscriptions are payable. Nevertheless, at the members' meeting on Saturday, Lord Northoook's objections to certain proposals in regard to the domestic affairs of the club were so abruptly and offensively overridden by a noisy majority of Indian students that His Lordship abruptly quitted the chair and left the meeting. The wrangle was then presided over by Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, and by all accounts, the proceedings were disagreeably lively, and owing, it is said, to the old quarrel between the two English factions in the club), the Native contingent were led by very unusual spokesmen. Lord Northbrook may be expected to resign his connection with the institution and the existing Committee will probably follow him, for there is no prospect of financial asistance outside under present circumstances."

THE Commander-in-Chief is reported to have called on all General-Officers to support the effects of the civil authorities to foster and extend the Volunteer movement. Sir Frederick Roberts considers that the military spirit and efficiency of the force can best be maintained by impressing upon its members the importance of the duties they may have to undertake for the public safety and their own, either in conjunction with regular troops, or on the withdrawal of the latter from their stations ; and to this end it has been suggested that simple defensive schemes should be prepared, showing the points at which the volunteers would, in case of emergency, assemble ; the picquet, outposts, and patrols they would be expected to furnish ; and the positions, whether entrenchments, buildings, railway-bridges, or river-crossings that they would hold in the event of local disturbances. Occasional rehearsals of such schemes would no doubt have an excellent effect in quickening the interest of volunteers in their training and in fitting them to take their part in the defence of the empire.

THE Deputy Commissioner of Umballa has raised a fund for the purchase and sale of grain, in order to check the raising of prices by the *bunnias* ; and some perceptible good has been done, the price of grain having fallen. The Deputy Commissioner has also organised a kind of combination exhibition and fair to encourage local manufacture.

Tuesday, 14th April.

THE Members of Parliament who have interested themselves in the IndianFactory question are (says the *Standard*) generally satisfied with the legislation introduced by the Indian Government, which they regard as of the nature of a reasonable compromise.

A NASIK telegram, dated April 5, to a Bombay paper, gives some particulars of what is being done at the Jain Conference :—"The second day of the Oswal Hitkarini Sabha commenced on Saturday, at 12 noon, under the presidency of Shet Panachand Hirachand. About 800 Marwari delegates attended. The first resolution was 'that the resolutions passed by the Sabha should be observed by the five talukas of Nasik district, *viz.*, Nasik, Tindori, Chaudwar, Nigbar, and Sinnar.' Eight more resolutions were carried for the curtailment of expenses which the caste is obliged to incur in connection with the thirteenth day of the dead. The third day commenced on Sunday at 12 noon, and the meeting passed 11 resolutions, curtailing all marriage expenses to a certain limit. The twelfth, most important and the most difficult to decide, took an hour's time to discuss, but was not decided till 4-30 P. M., when the meeting was adjourned to 10 A. M., the next day."

A NEW dwarf has made his bow at the London pavilion. He was brought upon the stage in a Gladstone bag, which was carefully deposited behind the footlights. When the bag suddenly flew open, its tiny occupant sprang out nimbly, and made a graceful bow. The new dwarf is a Prince, and he claims to be the smallest man in the world. Prince Mignon, as he is called, is, however, something more than that. He is a very accomplished little actor, which may be accounted for partly by the fact that he is aFrenchman. His graceful attitudes, studied bows, and smiling countenance bore quite a courtly air. He introduced himself to the audience in a thin, piping voice, beginning with "Mesdames et Messieurs," but the rest of the speech was entirely lost, as, in common with most dwarfs, his utterance is very indistinct. The only people of this sort whom a contemporary remembers to have had a clear articulation are the two Midgets, who were in London two or three years ago.

A TELEGRAM from Hurdwar, 8th April, reports :—"To-day being the *Amawas*, the bathing commenced at four o'clock in the morning. Over three lakhs of people had bathed by twelve noon and still they seemed to be coming. The procession consisted first of the Jhunis and Naringains, numbering over 5,000, then the Nirbauis, then the Bairagis, who mustered over ten thousand, then the Udasis, and last, but not least, the Nirmulas. The sight was most interesting, and the arrangements were perfect. Their Imperial Highnesses the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, and the Grand Duke Sergius of Russia, and suite leave tonight, after dinner, by special train for Jeypore. They have thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Mr. Patterson, and will long remember the Kumbh fair. They expressed themselves loudly in praise of the management, as being admirable."

IN the House of Commons on Friday night (10th April) a motion was brought forward by Sir Joseph Pease that the Indian Government should cease to grant licenses for the cultivation of the poppy and the sale of opium in British India, except for medical purposes. The motion was adopted by 160 against 130 votes. In the debate which took place on the motion Sir James Fergusson pointed out the difficulty of replacing the revenue from opium by other taxation, and said the Indian Government were trying gradually to reduce the consumption of the drug. Sir Richard Temple said the withdrawal of the tax would increase the evils arising from the trade in opium and seriously impair the revenue of India. The *Daily News* and the *Daily Chronicle*, in discussing the question of the opium trade in India, rejoice at the passing of the resolution of Sir Joseph Pease. The *Daily News* says that this unexpected success in the House must be vigorously pursued, as the present Government will probably not put the resolution into execution ; but Indian Government, it adds, will regard it as the strong indication of the feeling at home on the matter.

THE Kojak Tunnel is nearing completion, and in all probability Sir Frederick Roberts will open it some time in June.

Wednesday, 15th April.

THE *Times*, discussing the vote taken on the opium trade in India, suggests that the Government should find an occasion for settling whether the House of Commons is earnest in passing the motion of Sir Joseph Pease. The *St. James's Gazette* says no such display of ignorance and hyprocrisy has been seen in the House since the resolution repealing the Contagious Diseases Act was passed.

THE New York Police are taking measures to check the rapidly growing organisation of Italians in the States, which has the avowed intention of taking a sanguinary revenge for the New Orleans lynching.

THE condition of the Czar's second son, the Grand Duke George, is causing great anxiety. The Czar has renounced his intended visit to Central Asia.

A ST. PETERSBURG report says that diamonds in considerable quantity have been discovered in North Lapland.

FRANCE has voted £25,000 for the concession of the excavation at Delphi. There was hardly any opposition to the vote in the Chambers, first, because it is part of an arrangement for a commercial treaty ; and, secondly, because it puts France on an equality with Germany in the field of archæological exploration which has got much glory out of Olympia. The "finds" however, made by the explorers cannot be taken out of the country.

THE Bombay Presidency has increased in round numbers from 16½ millions to nearly 19 millions in the course of ten years, or over 14 per cent. The population of the city, on the other hand, is only 4 per cent. greater than in 1881. A comparison of the figures tends generally to confirm the theory that the relatively small increase of the capital is due to an abnormal growth of the urban population during the famine.

IT is proposed to convert Narail into a Municipal Town.

THE *Bombay Gazette* says :—"A correspondent writes :—A meeting of the Standing Congress Committee was held on Sunday morning, in Lalbagh, Nagpore, to form a Reception Committee for the next Congress to be held there. Over 60 gentlemen attended, representatives from Berars and Wardha, Bhandra, and Raipore Districts of the Central Provinces being present. It was resolved that 250 should be the number of members of the Reception Committee. Of this number 90 were to be of Berars and each District of the Central Provinces was to contribute five on an average. An Executive Committee, consisting of nearly twenty members, was also formed. There was some discussion regarding the appointment of the President. Several names, of whom some are educated *Raises* of these Provinces were suggested. It was at last resolved to ask these gentlemen whether they would undertake the duties of President. Mr. Dillon, a local European Barrister, was also proposed. Other Office-bearers, seven Vice-Presidents and eight Secretaries were elected. Members for the Fund Collection Sub-Committee were appointed. Sub-Committees of various other branches will be constituted in August next."

THE elder Baron Rothschild had the walls of his bank placarded with the following curious maxims :—

"Carefully examine every detail of your business.—Be prompt in everything.—Take time to consider, and then decide quickly.—Dare to go forward.—Bear troubles patiently.—Be brave in the struggle of life.—Maintain your integrity as a sacred thing.—Never tell business lies.—Make no useless acquaintances.—Never try to appear something more than you are.—Pay your debts promptly.—Learn how to risk your money at the right moment—Shun strong liquor.—Employ your time well.—Do not reckon upon chance.—Be polite to everybody.—Never be discouraged.—Then work hard, and you will be certain to succeed!"

UP to the present no reply has been received from Secretary Blaine to the protest sent by the Marquis Rudini regarding the delay of America in making reparation for the New Orleans massacre. The Italian press still expresses much irritation in discussing the subject.

THE British Indian subjects who have settled in Pretoria have been ordered by the Government of the Transvaal to quit the houses they are in, and to locate themselves in grounds specially set apart for them. The Indians protest against this order, and have appealed to the Imperial Government.

Thursday, 16th April

THE case of the Uncovenanted Service Bank, in liquidation, came on before the Allahabad High Court, when some extraordinary disclosures were made. C. W. Stowell, a former Manager of the Bank, was examined at great length, and stated, among other things, that he had on his own authority advanced money to a firm called Bale and Stowell, the latter being his son, without proper security at various times. This firm failed in 1878, and owed the Bank Rs. 43,189 at the time. Further disclosures were also made, showing the reckless manner in which the Bank's affairs had been managed.

THERE has been a serious rising on the Miranzai frontier. The fourth post, east of Sangur, held by the 29th Punjab Infantry, was surprised at 10 A.M., on Sunday before last, and seven men were killed. Firing was general until dark. The rising was general on every side on the Samana range occupied. The loss in the English side was 9 killed and 7 wounded.

INFORMATION has been received that the Orakzais and Afridis have stated that they will resist to the end any further attempts to construct a fortified post on the Samana range, as they believe the step would be precursory to annexation of their territory. The roads that have been recently made by the English are being destroyed, the stones from the culverts and revetment being used to make *sungurs*, which are occupied.

THE Sangu Khel Shinwaris are again giving trouble in Afghanistan. A body of about 200 attempted, on March 22nd, to raid the village of Deb Sarak, close to which the Amir has an outpost. The Afghan guards, however, were on the alert, as well as the villagers; and raiders were driven off. The defenders lost, however, seven men in killed and wounded. The Commander-in-Chief of the Jelallabad forces has since applied for the Amir's sanction to plant an outpost on the Shinwari frontier, to prevent the raiders from getting into Afghan territory at all.

ANOTHER case of nuisance of a most offensive character will shortly form the subject of a judicial investigation at the Court of the Joint-Magistrate of Sealdah. It appears, Messrs. Crof, Wells and Co., who are the defendants in the case, have recently constructed a building in Ward No. 19 where the carcasses of horses, cows, and other animals are boiled down for the purposes of obtaining lard. The obnoxious smell arising therefrom rendered the existence of the neighbouring residents intolerable. Babu Janoki Nath Bose, on behalf of the latter, has forwarded a petition to the Health Officer, praying for an inspection of the place, and the removal of the nuisance complained of as early as practicable.

MR. SEYMOUR KEAY, M. P., has asked for a return of the number of persons receiving salaries, pays, fees, emoluments, allowances, pensions, or grants of public money in the year 1889-90 from the revenues of Her Majesty's possessions in India, the amount of which is not less than 1,000 rupees for each person, stating the number of persons in grades or classes, the rate of salary or payment in each class, and the total amount in each class showing those, which belong to the Covenanted Civil Service, and Uncovenated Service, and the Army, and distinguishing Europeans, Eurasians, and Indians; of the number of those not resident in India, those of any military rank, who were employed in any civil capacity of service, and the names alphabetically arranged of all persons receiving pensions, Europeans, Eurasians, and Indians, separately, and stating the length of service, and the time since when each pension has been paid; and of any persons who were receiving at the same time any pension for past, and salary for present service.

MR. CONYBEARE, has asked the following questions in Parliament: (1) Whether Abdul was arrested a Bombay in consequence of communications, received from the India Office by the Commissioner of Police in Bombay; (2) what action on the part of Abdul prior to his arrival in Bombay, led the India Office to forward instructions for his arrest; (3) for how long a period, had Abdul been an object of suspicion to the India House authorities, and on what grounds was such suspicion based; (4) is it the fact that Abdul was escorted from the gaol, as assigned "on board the P. and O. steamer *Assam*," by a Sergeant of Police and seven Constables, and his passage paid for him; (5) what further information and action on the part of Abdul has led the India House authorities to the conclusion, that he is now neither a danger to the Empire, nor an object of suspicion; and (6) did any and what communications pass between the India Office and the Viceroy, in consequence of which the latter telegraphed to the Commissioner of Police at Bombay that, he was to send back Abdul to London. The questions may be troublesome, but it is necessary, in the interest of good Government, that the mystery should be cleared up.

Friday, 17th April.

THE effect of singing is capable—so the specialists tell us—of improving the general health of children and adults, even to the material increase of power in extracting the nutritive elements of food, and facilitating digestion. This is easily explained, and an old writer on the medicinal value of music does this for us. "When the tone of the stomach is relaxed," says he, "and we thereby find a remission of the appetite and digestion, singing will very much contribute to the cure, as it causes a plentiful influx of spirits and by them restores the spring and elastic force of the muscular fibres, and increases the action of the diaphragm. Perhaps this fact may also afford us a rational explanation of the objection manifested by a certain class of the school masters to boys yelling and shouting in the playground. Dire experience having taught them that vocal activity bodes no good to their larders, they ruthlessly taboo singing and ungentlemanly shouting. Anyhow, it seems somewhat suspicious that in French colleges, and *lycees*, where the utmost economy is *de légle* in the refectory, the *pions* invariably endeavour to put down with a high hand any manifestation of extraordinary vocal capacity in the playground. It is true, a liberal dose of *La Marseillaise* is permitted on festive occasions, but probably other motives prevail there. Seriously, however, the masters of cathedral choir-schools are unanimously agreed that their boys eat much more than the average youngsters of the same ages. Thus, at all event, singing seems to have one very decided result; a result which, perhaps, should be taken more seriously into consideration in the training of city-bred children, as one means of obviating certain evil effects attaching to town spent lives.—*Globe*.

A FRENCH scientist, says the *Progress*, has been studying the faculty of memory as exhibited by different races, and its relation to the other mental faculties as shown in individuals of the same race. His statements are interesting. The inferior races of mankind such as Negroes, the Chinese, etc., have more memory than those of a higher type of civilization. Primitive races which were unacqainted with the art of writing had a wonderful memory, and were for ages in the habit of handing down, from one generation to another, hymns as voluminous as the Bible (or the Vedas.) Prompters and professors of declamation know that women have more memory than men. French women will learn a foreign language quicker than their husbands. Youths have more memory than adults. It is well developed in children, attains its maximum about the fourteenth or fifteenth year and then decreases. Feeble individuals of a lymphatic temperament have more memory than the strong. Students who obtain the prize for memory and recitation chiefly belong to the former class. The memory is more developed among the peasantry than among the citizens, and among the clergy than among the laity. From a physiological point of view, memory is diminished by over-feeding, by physical exercise, and by education, in this sense, that the illiterate, have potentially more memory than those who know how to read and write. We remember, moreover, better in the morning than in the evening, in the summer than in the winter, and better in warm than in cold climates.

THE Bishop of Bombay presided the other day at a meeting for the purpose of considering the opium question and to support the motion which Sir Joseph Pease was announced to bring before the House of Commons. Resolutions were carried that the meeting was "of opinion that the system on which the Indian opium revenue is raised is morally indefensible, and wishes hearty success to the resolution to that effect to be moved in the House of Commons, and that it desires its good wishes to be sent by telegram to Sir Joseph Pease; that it is the duty of conscientious objectors to the opium system of the Indian Government to form themselves into an alliance for systematic and continuous agitation against the maintenance of that system, and that the chairman, speakers and promoters of the meeting be requested to take immediate steps for the formation of such an alliance." The Bishop in the course of his speech said it was no excuse for the continuation of the traffic that China had now accepted it and that if India did not supply opium some other country would; or again that the Government of India would be financially embarrassed by stopping the supply. If they were to consider that the system was justified in that way he would give them an answer in two sentences. Nations had no future; therefore, God judged them in this world, and in the long run the nation which had an undebauched conscience would rule the world. He did not believe that moral crimes in a nation went unpunished. All this is very fine no doubt; but the philanthropists should first of all set their own house in order, and take measures to stop beer-drinking in the United Kingdom.

Saturday, 18th April.

A GANG OF COOLIES, ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTING a new road from Saidpur on the Eastern Bengal State Railway to Shamgunj, lately unearthed a very large hoard of rupees, buried in pots four feet below the surface. They are said to have divided the spoil and decamped to their homes in the Upper Provinces. The rupees are of the coinage of 1874.

THE Vienna Reichsrath was opened on April 11 by the Emperor, who in a speech said that he was justified in hoping that the peace which had reigned in Europe for some years would continue.

THE latest intelligence from Chilli regarding the revolution is that the insurgents have captured the city of Arica after inflicting a severe defeat on the Government troops, who are now flying to Bolivia for safety.

THE Committee of the Irish National League in America has resolved to offer their good offices as arbitrators between the rival sections of the Irish Parliamentary party with a view to restoring the unity of the party.

IN the House of Commons, Sir James Fergusson, replying to a question, said that Abdul Rasul was offered payment of the expenses incurred since his arrival in England and passage back to Bombay; the Government also undertaking to give him safe conduct to Kashmir, but this offer was declined. He demanded a Government appointment or such pecuniary compensation as was equivalent, which the Government declined to grant. Rasul was informed on the 20th of March that the terms offered him would be withdrawn unless he accepted within fourteen days, but nothing had been heard from him since.

THE judgeship rendered vacant by the retirement of Sir James FitzJames Stephen has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Richard Collins, Q. C.

NEWS from Wuntho says that Colonel Wolseley arrived near Mogoung in pursuit of the Wuntho Sawbwa.

THE following rules are published in the *Gazette of India*;—

Piece-goods, such as are ordinarily sold by the length or by piece, shall be deemed to include woollen goods of all kinds, and the undermentioned descriptions of cotton goods:—Cambrics, checks, spots and stripes, chudders, dooties, domestics, doorias, drills jaconets, jeans, lappets, lawns, lenas, longcloth, madapollams, mulls, muslins, nainsooks, printers prints, sarries, scarves, eklai sheetings, sheetings, shirtings, tanjibs, twills, T. cloth and mexicans. Other classes of piece-goods shall not be detained if unstamped, and unstamped cotton and wollen goods imported for private and personal use, and not intended for sale, shall not be detained if the Collector of Customs is satisfied that they are not intended for sale.

Examinations of packages to ascertain whether goods mentioned above are stamped, shall be made at frequent intervals at the discretion of the Collector. Piece-goods contained in packages so examined need not be examined when found to be stamped, to test the accuracy of stamping, except on information received, or when the Collector has reason to suspect that the stamping is false. All measurements of piece-goods shall be made on the table. Yarns need not be examined or measured, except when the Collector has reason to suspect that the trade description is false. An examination of yarns to test the accuracy of the description, count or length shall be made, in the first instance, up to the limit of one bundle in a consignment. If on such examination the difference between the average count or length and the described count or length is in excess of the variations permitted in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Home Department notification, dated 4th December 1890, the importer may require a further examination to be made up to the limit here stated.

The test to determine count and length of yarns should be applied as follows: one bundle should be taken from any bale in the consignment, each knot in bundle weighed; four knots so weighed should be selected, the heaviest, the lightest, and the knot which approaches most closely to standard weight of one knot of yarn. By standard weight is meant the weight by which a knot of the described count should be, if the length of hank is correct. The heaviest knot should then be selected from the knots so weighed and each hank in it weighed. The heaviest, the lightest, and also the hank nearest standard weight being selected. This process should be repeated with the other two weighed knots. There will then be nine hanks to be dealt with.

These should be tested on the wrap reel. If on such test the difference between the average count or length and the described count or length is in excess of the variations permitted by the notification quoted in the preceding rule, the process may be repeated, if the importer requires it, up to the limit of one per cent. of the whole number of bundles; but no more extended examination shall be made unless the importer agrees to pay the cost thereof, in which case the examination may be made to the limit of ten per cent.

The Collector may require from any informant security not exceeding five hundred rupees. If the Collector be satisfied that the information given is wilfully false, the security shall be forfeited.

LADY Elliott has kindly become the Patroness of the Baranagore Female Boarding and Training School.

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1891.

THE OPIUM VOTE.

As another illustration perhaps of the certainty of ultimate success of persistent constitutional agitation, is the news of the triumph of the Opium motion of Sir Joseph Pease welcome in India and on no other account. Sir Joseph's tender philanthropy for China, as the head of the Peace Society, had made the Quaker motion for abolition of the opium trade of India a standing institution of the House of Commons, to which no body attached any great importance. But this year the wind has veered round suddenly, and to the surprise of all, on Friday before last, the Pease motion, that the Indian Government should cease to grant licenses for the cultivation of the poppy and the sale of opium in British India, except for medical purposes, was adopted by 160 against 130 votes. In a country where many men and women above forty habitually take opium as an antidote against the effects of advancing age and consequent ailment, it is difficult to define "medical purpose'; and so far as consumption of this character is concerned the success of the motion ought not to interfere with the trade very materially. But apart from medical purposes people do take the drug for the purposes of, what is in their view of things, pleasure, and we do not know why the philanthropists of England would force down the Chinese poison upon them, which is admittedly inferior to and much more injurious in effect than the Indian drug. It is to improve the quality of the Chinese stuff that the celestial Government has been trying hard of late, and this competition was already being much dreaded by the Indian Exchequer, to which the opium revenue is next in importance only to land revenue. If philanthropic legislation could also stop opium cultivation in China and could thus save celestial morals, some appreciable object would be gained no doubt. And philanthropy would find some useful work, if liquor traffic of Great Britain could be stopped or curtailed. But millennium is not so near at hand, and people in India and China as perhaps in any other country will take opium. If they cannot get good stuff like that obtainable in India, they must perforce content themselves with the Chinese abomination, and Indian tax-payers will only be ruined in the bargain by having to make up in some other way the heavy loss of revenue necessarily entailed by this grotesque change. So well is Indian opium valued, that the news of the success of this absurd motion immediately sent up the price by so much as 20 Rs. a chest, as dealers are anxious to secure as much of the right stuff for the market as possible, since it will bring them a larger yield. Government monopoly has the advantage of ensuring good quality as well as of regulating the quantity, which zealous philanthropists do not choose to consider. In the debate which took place on the motion, Sir. James Fergusson pointed out the difficulty of replacing the revenue derived from opium by other taxation, and said that the Indian Government was trying gradually to reduce the consumption of the drug. Sir Richard Temple said that the withdrawal of the tax would increase the evils arising from the trade in opium and seriously impair the revenues of India. These explanations, however, did not at all weigh with the House, and the motion was carried by a majority of thirty in a tolerably well-filled House.

There is naturally and necessarily great glee in the ill-informed section of the Radical Press. Of the London Press, the *Daily News* and *Daily Chronicle*, discussing the question of India, rejoice at the passing of the resolution. The *News* says that this unexpected success in the House must be vigorously pursued, as the present Government will probably not put the resolution into execution, but the Indian Government, it adds, will regard it as a strong indication of feeling at home on the matter. We fail to see how the Government of India can afford to trifle with the pronounced opinion of Parliament long, though by constitutional tactics it may put off the evil day for some little time. It is not a healthy practice or doctrine, either to let Parliamentary expression of opinion shelved and Government must submit to loss of revenue on this head only to make up for it through some other channel. There may be an increased income tax, the cotton duties will certainly have to be re-imposed, and probably the "poor man's salt" will have to be taxed further. So philanthropy will run amuck with a vengeance, and the Indian tax-payer will be ground beneath the wheel. The *St. James's Gazette* says that no such display of ignorance and hypocrisy has been seen in the House, since the resolution repealing the Contagious Diseases Act was passed. The *Times* suggests that Government should find occasion for settling whether the House of Commons is in earnest in passing the motion of Sir Joseph Pease. There is really good ground to question the soundness of the information of those who formed the majority and of their knowledge of what the consequences of their deliberations would be. Opium trade is an evil no doubt, as there are many other evils, to be rectified if possible. But how is the object to be attained, how is financial equillibrium to be maintained, how is down right bankruptcy to be avoided, how in short are the two ends to meet? These are practical questions of supreme importance which even bigotted zeal cannot afford to ignore. Glad and happy should we be, if the evil could be eradicated without introducing others of a graver type. Our own excise system is capable of a good deal of improvement which is demanded in the interests of Her Majesty's Indian subjects. That is left alone, while statesmen's wits are sent wool-gathering on an expedition of elevating the morals of the antipodes.

More re-assuring news came later on. Dr. Cameron asked whether, in view of the vote Government would appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into the subject. Mr. Smith, replying, said that Friday's vote did not express the full sense of the House, and that Government would take no action until the whole question was submitted to Parliament. Dr. Cameron is right, for there ought to be a thorough and satisfactory enquiry into the whole question of Home and Military charges, and it ought to be determined as to how the deficit should be met out of the British Exchequer. The deficit will be, if it ever be caused indeed, by a strong desire of a section of enthusiasts to satisfy the national conscience of Great Britain, and as Sir Joseph Pease is not in a position to reimburse the Indian Treasury the British Treasury will or ought to have to do so, or else a proportionate extent of the Home charges which India is made to find ought to be readily given up. If either of these courses be agreed to, there will be some indication of the nation being in earnest for saving Chinese morals. That some people would not object to such a course, appears from a further telegram to the effect that an addendum by Sir John Fowler to the motion of Sir Joseph Pease requiring the Home Government to reimburse the loss that would be sustained by the Indian Government through the withdrawal of revenue from this source was talked out in the House of Commons on Friday. A technical difficulty has, however, arisen in the way of the resumption of the debate. Replying to Sir Joseph Pease, the Government has promised to consider the question, giving a day for further discussion of the matter. This reply, as well as Mr. Smith's reply to Dr. Cameron, makes it abundantly clear that the Government was not at all prepared for the unlooked-for result, and had treated the annual Pease motion with usual contempt, trusting to the good sense of the House to let it overtake its usual fate.

THE MUNIPUR DISASTER.

During the week that has just passed, the most important information that has reached us about the recent disastrous incidents at Munipur, has been a telegram sent to Simla from Cachar and dated the 10th of April, containing the epitome of Captain Boileau's statement; and another sent to the *Bombay Gazette* by it special coresspondent and published on the 13th instant. Captain Boileau's account, being a statement only of facts personally known to him, contains many gaps in the narrative of incidents, which are, however, filled up by the later and more elaborate account sent by the *Bombay Gazette* coresspondent. There are at the same time some important discrepancies between the two accounts. Leaving, however, these aside and taking into consideration those points where they donot conflict, we glean some very important facts, which throw light on what was hitherto mysterious and obscure in this melancholy tale of warfare.

Our misgiving about the Durbar having been a success, to which we gave expression in our issue of the 6th instant, has now proved to have been well-founded. The first Durbar was ordered by the Commissioner at 12 o'clock on the 22nd March, to which the Raja and the Jubaraj were summoned. The Raja came without the Jubaraj, so the Commissioner refused to see him and he left after waiting three hours. The Durbar was again ordered for 8 A.M., on the 23rd, the Jubaraj to attend. But as the Jubaraj did not attend that Durbar also, it was again ordered for one o'clock. Still no body appeared. At seven o'clock on the evening of the 23rd, Mr. Grimwood went to the palace with the Chief Commissioner's *Ultimatum* that, unless the Jubaraj voluntarily came out, force would be employed the following morning to effect his capture; and about 9 o'clock he returned with an unsatisfactory reply and reported the palce to be swarming with armed men. So ended the Durbar affair, and in the morning of the 24th, attack on the palce began. One important reason why all attempts to hold a Durbar came to a nullity is to be traced in the fact reported that the Munipuris showed alarm at the disposition of the English troops about the first Durbar and indeed at the general character of the military march undertaken by the Chief Commissioner of Assam into the heart of Munipur. That the Jubaraj apprehended serious personal danger there is not the slightest reason to doubt. And if the insinuation of the Englishman, that a deliberate plan had been formed to surprise and capture the Jubaraj of Munipur at the Durbar which he was invited to attend by the Chief Commissioner of Assam, is at all true, we do not see anything in his apprehension to condemn as unreasonable. Nay, if this insinuation be even half true, it will go a great way towards changing the moral aspect of the whole subsequent series of incidents, and would make the Jubaraj's treacherous and atrocious conduct towards the Commissioner and his staff, a stroke of policy to meet another of the same nature. We are, however, not prepared to pronounce any opinion whatever respecting this insinuatim without having full information from the Government itself. We have reserved also the question of the advisability or justifiability of the Government policy in this interference with the Manipur State for future consideration.

One significant feature of the affair observable throughout the continuance of the Durbar difficulty was the open military preparations which were being made on both sides, ostensibly to provide for an impending quarrel. There was not the slightest attempt at secrecy. Want of adequate information prevents us from pronouncing positively who first took the offensive. Captain Boileau states that the Manipuris first fired on the Presidency. And yet from other parts of his statements as well as from those of the *Bombay Gazette* correspondent it would appear that the first deliberate attack was made on the palace by the English troops. The Jubaraj also strongly maintains that the English first gave the offence. Whatever that may be, Colonel Skene ordered Lieutenant Brackenbury with 30, and Captain Butcher with 79 men, to march out at dawn to surround the Jubaraj's palace and seize him. Lieutenant Lugard was to support the movement

with 50 men. Firing on the palace commenced at 6 A.M. At 8 A.M. Lieutenant Chatterton with 30 men was sent to seize the Raja's gateway, from which men were firing on the Residency. At 10 A.M. Colonel Skene with 80 men joined the parties of Captain Butcher and Lieutenant Brackenbury, who were occupying the Jubaraja's palace. This account of the manœuvre adopted by Colonel Skene confirms more strongly than ever the extreme folly, commented on by us in a previous issue, of his attempt to storm so fortified a place as the Raja's palace with so inconsiderable an amount of force. And we are not at all surprised to see that in a few hours all attempts at further storming of the palace were hopelessly given up, as the matter appeared impossible of achievement. Then the troops were called back into the Residency, and about evening a general retreat to the Residency took place.

The enemy had, however, opened fire on the Residency long before, and an incessant fire of 500 rifles was kept up from 4-30 to 7-30 p. m. About 9 o'clock the Chief Commissioner, in consultation with Colonel Skene and Mr. Grimwood, determined to attempt to make terms. The Bugle sounded "Cease fire," and it was responded to by the Munipuris with "Fall in" and "Assemble." A letter was sent to the Jubaraj proposing terms. The reply was that an unconditional surrender would alone be granted. To this Mr. Quinton absolutely demurred; and Colonel Skene said that the idea was untenable. But the place could not be maintained, if the fire was reopened. So Mr. Grimwood attempted for a meeting with the Jubaraj on the strength of his personal influence with him. There was a conversation across the moat and the Jubaraj expressed his desire to see the Commissioner if he would go over to th gateway of the palace. Then was committed the greatest act of folly, the immediate prelude to the atrocious murder of Mr. Quinton, and Messrs. Grimwood, Simpson Cossins, and Skene, who all went to the gateway of the palace. What conversation took place there we have no means of knowing; all that is known for certain is that they never came back from that interview. The account given by certain *dooly* bearers who were made prisoners and have been afterwards released is that after palavering for sometime with the Jubaraj and Senapati, the party was cut down with swords and *daos*. The first to suffer were Mr Quinton, Colonel Skene and Lieutenant Simpson. According to another account it was Mr. Grimwood who was cut first and then Mr. Quinton. some other refugees describe the bodies of the victims to have been without head, hands and feet.

In partial extenuation, however, of this most horrible act of treachery and murder on the part of the Jubaraj, it may be said that according to a telegram from Kohima, there is a concurrence of testimony to the effect that in the fighting which followed the attempt to arrest the Jubaraj of Munipur, our troops killed some women and children, relatives of the Jubaraj. Probably, this was an act of mis-adventure. But the Jubaraj, it is to be presumed, would care very little under the circumstances to distinguish between intention and accident; and had reason to be exasperated. At 10-30 P.M. fire was reopened on the Residency. During the truce, the Munipuris had approached nearer and were occupying the Residency out-buildings. It was not possible to maintain the Residency for long and then it was thought desirable and imperative that the Residency should be abandoned. At 1-40 Captain Boileau ordered a retreat by a gap in the wall. The wounded men were carried. The party had constant fights on the road until they were met by Captain Cowley on the 26th. It is said that the heroic presence of mind displayed by Mr. Grimwood was largely instrumental in bringing safely out the refugees who escaped from the Residency.

Our strong conviction is that the number of the murdered on the part of the English were far greater than the reports reaching us would give out. We have the fact that at the time of retreat there were only seven British officers, with Mrs. Grimwood and 150 men. Where was gone the rest of the 450 Goorkhas? Some had no doubt fled in different directions during the encounters of the iday; but their numbers could not have been possibly very great.

We hear the Rangoon Government has issued a proclamation offering rewards for the capture of the Munipur murderers, if they take refuge in Burmah, Rs. 5000, for the Munipore Regent or the Senapati, Rs. 2000 each for Doloroi Hinjuda, zilla Sing and Tangal General; and Rs. 1000 for Niranjan Subadar. Perhaps like proclamation will be issued in other parts of India.

The Viceroy has expressed his deepest regret for the fates of Mr. Quinton and others at Munipur and has assured the public that adquate retribution will follow. Generlal Collett leaves Kohima for Munipore on the 20th instant with four guns No. 8 mountain Battery. The Munipuris have strongly defended Kaito Mabi, and have placed two guns in position. They have sent a message that they will fight there. The Cachar, Tammu and kohima columns will all reach within 12 miles of Munipur on the 27th instant. The total force will be nearly 4000 strong with 10 mountain guns. It may be mentioned that the relative distances of the various posts from Munipur are as follows. Tammu 50 milas; Kohima 105 miles; Silchar 126 miles. Leiutenant Grant, who took Thobal on the 31st March from 800 Munipuris and was in occupation of it with a small party of 80 rifles, was attacked by 3000 Munipuris and one gun; but he drove them aff with a loss of about 50 killed and large number wounded. The killed included the Senapati and two other generals and their defeat is said to have had a very dispiriting effect on the Munipuris. He was again attacked in force on the 6th for thirteen hours and a half, but the enemies were unable to force the position taken up by Lieutenant Grant's gallant little detachment. On the 9th Lieutenant Grant commenced his return to Tammu, when he was met halfway by Captain Presgrave and his detachment. It would appear from reports that the Nagas are in rebellion and the Kukis are also disaffected. The Chins however are in our favour. The 36th Sikhs, 650 strong, have been sent to quell and keep in check all frontier troubles. In the meantime, loyal assistance to the British Government has been offered. His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala has offered a thousand troops to the Government of India for service on the frontier. The residents of Assam have offered their great and respectful sympathy to Mrs. Quinton and family in the loss they have sustained in the death of the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and also to the relatives of officers and soldiers killed at Manipur. Public meetings have been held in Desaie Circle, Sibsagar, Jorehat and other important centres expressing deep sorrow and resentment at the cruel and treacherous way in which their late beloved Chief Commissioner and his staff were captured and murdered by the Manipuris. Mrs. Quinton is on her way out from England and was not with her husband's party as was at first believed. The Misses Quinton are in Shillong and the Government and many high officials have sent them and Mr.s Grimwood messages of condolence.

THE GOVERMENT OF INDIA ON THE RATE-PAYERS' MEMORIAL.

IT is a most melancholy reflection, that living as we do under a liberal and enlightened Government, it should always be our misfortune to cry in the wilderness with respect to grievances, real and grave. We have repeatedly approached that Government with sanguine hopes and fervent prayers, but repeatedly have our hopes been frustrated, and our prayers disregarded. The recent agitation against the Age of Consent Act has abundantly, and perhaps conclusively, proved, that the Government has only a stubborn deaf-ear to turn to the united voice of the people, however sound and reasonable. And now we have to notice, with feelings of deep regret, the summary way in which the Memorial, addressed to the Governor-General in Council, by a large number of the rate-payers of Calcutta, asking for an amendment of some of the hard provisions of the Calcutta Municipal Consolidation Act of 1888,—or, at any rate, for the appointment of a Commission of competent persons to enquire into their grievances in connection with Municipal assessment,—has been treated by the Government. The reply of the Home Secretary on that Memorial, published in our issue of the 6th instant, runs to this effect: "After a careful perusal and consideration of the papers submitted, the Governor-General in Council is of opinion, that the note by the Hon'ble Sir Henry Harrison dated the 26th May 1890, the Resolution of the Government of Bengal dated the 7th June 1890, and the letter of the Bengal Government accompanying the papers submitted, dispose of all the arguments urged by the memorialists and that there is no reason to interfere in the matter." To the misfortune of the Memorialist the influence of Sir Henry Harrision has been but too magical with both the Local and supreme Government. The reply of the Home Secretary displays not the slightest attempt to examine the agruments so forcibly advanced by the Memorialists. On the contrary its very summary character betrays a solicitude to evade all discussion. Then again, it is simple mockery to refer the memorialists back to Sir Henry Harrison. This is as it were making the Prosecutor, the Judge over the accused,—a procedure altogether unheard of in all civilised system of things. We are further astonished to see that the very modest prayer of the memorialists, that a Commission of competent men may be appointed, has also been thrown away. Surely, there cannot be more manifest and deliberate injustice than this. We hoped for the credit of Lord Lansdowne's Government that His Excellency would not allow such a measure of fearful oppression to remain in the Statute Book without an open, impartial and thorough-going enquiry. But our hopes have been doomed to be disappointed.

It was observed by Sir Henry Harrison, it will be remembered that inasmuch as the ground landlords of Calcutta have got the value of their lands enormously increased by Municipal improvement, they ought to bear a fair share of Municipal burden, and so he devised this new system of assessment to remedy the existing defects. Nothing, however, could be more misguided. The new system of assessment does not apply to ground-rents but to residential houses. A ground landlord is only affected so far as his own house is concerned, and there are many ground landlords who not even reside within the town. The pressure falls mainly upon the middle and lower classes, men in straightened circumstances, who have inherited, purchased or built a house upon one or two cuttas of land, where they reside with their families. This is admitted by Sir Henry Harrison, who, in paragraph 4 of Appendix A to his note on the Memorial of the rate-payers to the Bengal Government, says: "If any body is seriously hurt by these enhancements, it is small houseowners whose rental is valued at from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 a month, and whose houses in England would be strictly rated by comparison with other houses let out to tenants." Now it is well-known, that this class of house-owners form the bulk of the rate-payers, and yet what safeguard has Sir Henry Harrison devised for them? It will perhaps be said, that clause 3, sec. 122, Bengal Act 11 of 1888, which says, that, when a house is occupied by the owner under such exceptional circumstances as renders a valuation of 5 per cent of the cost of building, less depreciation, excessive, a lower percentage may be taken, affords them protection. But we ask can anything be more vague than this clause of the Act? There is no definition in the Act of exceptional circumstances. They are apparently to be left to the discretion of the assessors. The fact is that in his zeal to run down the richer classes, Sir Henry Harrison has sacrificed the interests of the poor unfortunate rate-payers of Calcutta.

As forcibly pointed out by the Memorialists, the new Municipal Act is fundamentally defective in not providing a uniform system of assessment throughout the whole town. We have indeed a double system—one for tenanted houses and the other for residential houses. That for tenanted houses is substantially a re-enactment of the old law; but the second system introduces a novel principle of assessment hitherto unheard-of in the annals of Calcutta. How far that principle is sound and justifie d our readers know very well, and we need not walk over trodd en

ground. All that we need point out is that this new principle of assessment is causing great hardship and oppression among the poorer house-owners in Calcutta. The cry of discontent which was raised to the highest pitch at the time of the Revision of Assessment in Words VI & 1 is still fresh in our memory. Never in the history of Municipal taxation in Calcutta, was such an engine of oppression in the garb of legislative enactment worked to draw out the lifeblood of the tax-payer.

When, on the one hand, there is so much widespread discontent against this novel scheme of assessment, and on the other, Sir Henry Harrison, the originator of this obnoxious scheme, urges that the "scandal of the undervaluation of residential houses" ought not to be tolerated, the Government of India, we humbly submit, might have fairly asked that instead of having two modes of assessment for residential and tenanted houses, there might be one mode of assessment for both, so that the principle laid down in Sec. 122 of the present Act might apply to all houses. Certainly if that principle was fair with regard to one class of houses, there is no reason why it should not be fair with regard to the other class of houses also. But no, that cannot be done. That would considerably increase the burden of the European residents of Calcutta, most of whom are tenants, not owners of houses. The present Act would thus appear to be partial in its provisions intended solely to grind the unfortunate Native ratepayers of Calcutta.

In the assessment of Bustee lands, Sir Henry Harrison has displayed the same unrestrained antipathy towards the landed proprietors, who, he sarcastically says, "have grown rich in their sleep." Sec. 117 provides that the owner of Bustee lands must be responsible for the rates assessed on the huts, which the tenants have erected on the land. Now this is simply burdening the landlord with a duty, which he has not the slightest reason or interest to perform. Sir Henry Harrison justifies this provision by saying that it will protect the owners of the huts from the illtreatment of the tax-collectors, and also by indicating that the English system is the same. The first argument is entirely futile. In case the hut-owners regularly and properly pay their moiety of rates and taxes, there can be no fear of oppression from any quarter. But in case they make default in payment, they have as much to fear from their landlords and the bailiffs of the Civil Courts, as from the tax-collectors, of the Municipality. The second reason assigned was conclusively set at naught by the Advocate-General, who said that "In England all house property belonged to the landlords whereas in India huts belonged to the tenants and the land only to the landlord; and that therefore *it would be unfair to make the landlord pay for property of which he was not the owner.*" Even this authoritative protest from the highest legal adviser of the Crown was unheeded, so overwhelming was the influence of Sir Henry Harrison. In this connection we shall also quote the words used by the memorialists. "Are the municipality justified in thrusting upon the shoulders of others their own burden? Tenants every day abscond, why is the owner of the land in such a case to be responsible for the rates of the absconded tenants? In such cases he loses the rent and why should he pay out of his own pocket the tenants' rates? It is not an uncommon occurrance for a whole Bustee to be burnt to the ground. Is it fair to hold the owner of the land responsible for the rates in case of accidents of this sort? But under the present Act he is. Rates, it must be remembered, are levied in advance: rents are paid after they have become due. If a tenant absconds, or the house is burnt down, the landlord has no chance of recovering the rent, much less the rates. If the municipality with their summary procedure have difficulty in collecting the rates, the landlords with no summary procedure at their disposal have ten times the difficulty in collecting their rents." The fact is that Sir Henry Harrison lent himself to making a most unjust and arbitrary provision in his zeal to secure to the municipality certainty of revenue. We donot as yet know what new arguments have been manufactured in Mr. Cotton's forwarding letter to the Government of India in support of this new system of assessment. But we dare say the Government of Bengal will supply a copy of it to the Ratepayers' Committee.

We have already spoken of the undignified attitude of the Government towards the memorialists. They went to the Supreme Government craving for pity and mercy, but they have been cruelly dismissed. Time was when even so high-handed and despotic a Lieutenant-Governor as Sir George Campbell, could not carry his cherished Mofussil Municipal Act into execution. Lord Northbrook vetoed the Act of Campbell on the ground that it would increase municipal taxation. Lord Lansdowne has lost a precious opportunity of making his administration popular. As our last hope in India is gone, the only resource left to us now is to carry our movement to England—the land of freedom and fair play. Removed from the tainted atmosphere of the Indian Beaurocracy, the British people will freely appreciate the justice of our cause and befriend us in our distress.

HINDU MARRIAGE LAW.

BAKDAN, VIVAHA AND PUNAR-VIVAHA.

IN a recent issue we have tried to show how the legislature has virtually transformed what was *Vivaha* (Hindu marriage) into a mere *Bakdan* (Hindu betrothal). In this sad deformation, however, Her Majesty's Government have been only unconscious agents, except in so far that they have in this, as in other matters, opposed all our aspirations after constitutional checks. It is some of our own countrymen who have given to the orthodox party the greatest pain by their unconscionable adhesion to a revolutionary measure. But if we have rightly analysed the fact before us we must deal with the three several factors set out above, in manner respectively suitable to each of them. We must not be indiscriminate in our own action.

Our opposition to Government for instance is only political: and we must not spoil our politics with Asiatic *zid*. Politics works either by force or by opinion. *Zid* leans to the side of force which is out of place as against the Government. We Asiatics have been behind-hand in regulating conflict of opinion. Europeans have been wiser. Because our opinion has counted for nothing in the Consent Act it does not follow that the Government is intellectually or morally unfit to appreciate our reason. As loyal subjects we are bound to carry our appeal up to the highest authorities. But our appeal to their opinion should not be abused by a cantankerous *zid* to stimulate the power and prestige of higher office against way wardness of local subordinates. That sort of *zid* must not be ours, even if we could be as sanguine of success in influencing English opinion as we could wish to be. The greatest blunder of Government has been their loss of temper at the large constitutional agitation which they have had to confront. There is certainly danger that democratic demonstrations may be degraded into violent out-breaks. But there was absolutely no such fear from the Maidan meeting. And to take provocation where none could be meant was a gross blunder. That blunder we cannot hope to rectify. Our loyalty to Government should now keep us if possible with greater strictness to an appeal to the better judgment of the constituted authorities. Memorials may and must be sent up. But we ought to know better than the gentlemen who have worked this blunder into law, that memorials cannot possibly cover all the ground which the question really occupies. We could not bring within the four corners of a memorial on the Consent Act, all the abstract principles which govern marriage, divorce, courtship, chivalry, joint family system, civilizations of communistic and competitive kinds: we could not launch forth into speculations regarding the history of what Sanskrit literature deals with *vivaha, punarvivaha, bakdan, garbhadhan, gowna, fulsajjya* and so on. We may be barbarians and even blacks if you please. But history is history. And the history even of blacks may not be forced by legislative bloodletting. Where law hopes to educate it must have behind it the holy spirit of peace and persuasiveness. We have to go into history to expose the unsound principles of this penal law. We must appeal to the better judgment of Anglo-Indians and Englishmen. We must go coolly into it. And we shall require more copious literature than a short-winded breathless memorial.

Our course is far more difficult as regards our own invincible fellow-countrymen. Logic cannot convince them. For they know the facts quite as much as we do; and they will not yield to argument where to yield at all would disclose that oriental weakness—stultification! And the glamour of *sahebism* must continue as long as light is shed from Albion's shores. We might let them well alone. That is what Hindus have always done in similar cases. But the times are out of joint. The old policy of boycotting has passed from us into the West, and we could not conscientiously recommend its revival here. It was a good thing in its time. It has helped to keep Hindus purer than any people on the face of the globe. But *boycotting* like *Vairagya* is suicidal to social life. Our ancestors tried to boycott the wide world outside of us, like the Chinese and Japanese. The Japanese have given up the policy with a vengeance. We have been broken down by persuasion no less than by force: by persuasion from those whose kindred have adopted the same policy of exclusiveness in Australia and California, in Ireland and by trade-unionism. Thus it is that our ancestral policy of exclusiveness is out of date in the East. Besides when Brahmos are anxious to be restored into the pale of Hindu society through the powerful *Samanvaya* of a census record we could not find it in our Hindu heart to bawl out to heterodox Hindus, "stand out of us ye who are not of us." Situated as we are, the hand of fellowship must not be withdrawn from any one, by us.

We have borne many things and we may, we think, afford to bear the bluster of headless Indian reformers as they call themselves, who would make domestic law for their benighted countrymen through foreign coercion. We would perhaps if we saw our way, ask them to keep quiet. But as freedom of the press is too precious a jewel to be flung after wild geese, we had best shut our own eyes and allow the heated blood to cool down as it must after the excitement was over.

Last of all, we have to bring ourselves to look into our own house. We could not do so until we made up our minds about a prestige-loving Government and our clamouring deformers as inseparable accidents of our existing social disorder. They will molest us and they can never help us. We must undo their action as best we may. In other words we must adapt ourselves as to some fatality whether formidable or foolish. In the present case this Consent Act has become a fatality both foolish and formidable. But we must not lock up our plates and dine off the bare ground because we have been robbed. If, as we suspect, it be true that our *Vivaha* would henceforth be no better than *bakdan*, it is necessary for us that we should not only cease to attach to it the higher sanctity with which it has been always hallowed, but we should try to preserve that superior sanctity for some other institution where it would keep and be more safe in future. This *bakdan* was a contrivance to protect infant-marriage from the uncertainties of hesitation and irresolution in the parent. But when its penalties fell upon the innocent girl it quietly passed away. If in future *vivaha* may be made nugatory like a *bakdan*, the misery of it would be shared by the couple themselves in part only; but far more, by the Hindu Society at large. Vivaha could not be repudiated for the wife except through the good offices of pervert parents or kinsmen. The emancipated squaw may then be left to please herself. And when in such cases the *bharta* (husband) has to construct his own house the evil of polygamy would tell more for the social atavism than as a domestic disruption. The worst of it, however, would be some legal or social precedent for divorce for the recusant woman, as we have in the case of, what is euphuistically called Act for Christian Remarriage. And once the precedent occurs, it will not be within the powers of a Protestant sovereign to

revive the prestige of indissoluble Hindu marriage. That is where the shoe pinches. And it seems that the individual sufferers and miscreants will have far less to lose than the ancient social system, which we claim to have uninterruptedly inherited despite the Vaidic proclivities sown in suitable soil by an Olcott or a Max-Muller.

We must take care how we pin our faith on our *Vivaha* in the fond belief that we shall still be able to cherish it as a sacred and indissoluble bond. If it has come to be no better than *bakdan*, we have enemies enough to knock down our fondest associations. We should ponder over the peculiar elements which made *Vivaha* more sacred than *bakdan* or even Christian marriage, and we should transfer those sacred elements into another institution which we do possess—we allude to *Punar-Vivaha*. How to do it and what would be requisite for the purpose are comparatively remote questions. What the Hindu community have now to do is to shake off their un-Hindu struggle with unmanageable opponents and to examine for themselves if, as we have suggested, *Vivaha* has not become as frail as *bakdan*, and if organised effort has not become necessary to save the sacred elements of *Vivaha* by transmitting them into *Punar Vivaha*.

THE GOLD SUPPLY OF ENGLAND AND INDIA.

SUCH is the title of an article which Mr. Clarmont Daniell, late of the North-West Civil Service, has contributed to the current number of *Black Wood's Magazine*. It is well-known that while in India, Mr. Daniell took much pains to investigate the probable value of the treasure lying unproductive in this country in the form either of hoards or of ornaments. In his article under notice he points out that a considerable part of all the gold which is imported into India never leaves the country; and that the three millions sterling of gold bullion which India annually adds to her store are lost to the nations of the West, by being withdrawn from the general commerce of the world. Mr. Daniell calculates that during the last 55 years India has added 135¼ millions sterling to her store of gold. She pays England 15 millions sterling a year for meeting the Home charges, but she provides more of the gold used in the payment. It is bought in England and paid for with silver by bills drawn on India. The gold treasure of India, Mr. Daniell observes, is part of the accumulated savings of the people. He then goes on to say:—"What is that which ensures the progressive prosperity of a country more certainly than facilities for investing savings in sound enterprises? But the first step in this direction is to legalise the conversion of these savings from money-metal into money. Banking and the facilities which Banks afford for economising the use of money, and for placing it in quarters where it can be most profitably employed were understood in India long before Lombard Street existed; and as a reserve of wealth in support of credit, this stock of bullion forms part of the capital fund of the country. What can be said for the financial system of a great empire in this age of the world, which forbids the use of gold legal-tender money, and prevents savings realised in gold bullion becoming reproductive in a liquid form? * * * If so little as 30 or 50 millions sterling of this gold store were in circulation in India as legal-tender money, a few millions would be available for the relief of London at such a time of distress as that which has lately prevailed. Were the trade of England and India conducted on the basis of an identical monetary limit—the £1 sterling of the Realm and of the Empire of India—the potential limits of the supply of gold money to the London money-market would be greatly enlarged; for the drain of gold to India would be arrested, and a large portion of the metal which now disappears there would be retained in Europe and America while another large portion of the stock of gold now in India would be set free for use in the trade of the world, of which London would take her share."

All sensible persons will agree with Mr. Daniell that it is most desirable that the trade of England and India should be conducted on the basis of an identical monetary standard. The question of the day, as the reader is aware, is whether there should be mono-metallism or bimetallism. On the continent of Europe as well as in the United States of America, there is a growing feeling in favour of the latter, and it is only the opposition of England that stands in the way of the adoption of bimetallism by International agreement. The time has come when the currency question should be settled on a broad basis. It cannot be too carefully borne in mind that from the farthest antiquity downwards, men have always used the two precious metals as monetary standards. Nature has endowed these two metals with the qualities which fit them to be made into money. A uniform currency for England and India has become absolutely necessary; but it should be on the basis of bimetallism, and not of mono-metallism. The mono-metallists, as the well-known French economist, Mr. Gernuschi says, were bound to fail; and they have failed. He writes:—"Germany, who had embraced the gold mono-metallist doctrines; Germany, who had set herself to calling in the florins and thalers, and selling them at any price in ingots beyond the frontier; Germany herself, reflecting on the colossal losses she was about to incur by continuing the ingenious operation (she had already lost a hundred millions marks) adopted, in June, 1879, a manly resolution. She proclaimed that she renounced carrying further the work of demonetization. No more callings in, no more sales of silver. The old thaler, therefore, still circulates; it circulates as a forced currency, and every German is bound to receive it for three gold marks." It is not to be expected that India will succeed when Germany has failed. The system of gold mono-metallism is utterly unsuited to a poor country like India. It is all very well to speak of the accumulated stock of gold in this country. But when Mr. Daniell himself investigated the subject a few years ago, he stated as the result of his researches that about 270 millions sterling might be estimated to represent the probable value of the treasure lying unproductive in the form either of hoards or of ornaments throughout India. Even admitting, for the sake of argument, that this estimate is approximately correct, it shows that the accumulated savings of the people represent less than £1 per head of the population.

In concluding part of his paper under notice Mr. Daniell writes:—"If a gold currency were in circulation in India, say, if from 30 to 50 millions of sovereigns, and a gold revenue yielding 20 or 30 millions sterling were levied in the place of a portion of the silver revenue—not by the conversion of silver into gold payments, but by the direct imposition of taxation in gold—gold money would be kept in constant circulation not only by the daily traffic of the market, but by the levy of taxes and their immediate disbursement on State payments for services, interest on the public debt, *material*, and so forth. This circulation would necessarily pass through the banks, and become involved in the mechanism of the external commerce of the country, and consequently in that of the foreign exchanges, and thus there would be opened to the city of London a source of supply large, more certain, and less variable in its amount, than can be obtained by any other means or from any other quarter. In this way the distress to which the financial business of England is liable from a short supply of gold money, which the increasing drain of gold bullion to India intensifies, would be much relieved even if it were not definitely and effectually extinguished." Now, if the financial distress to which Mr. Daniell refers would be most effectually extinguished if England adopted a double monetary standard. Well has Mr. Samuel Smith said that England suffers the most from the existing monetary arrangements, and yet she will not listen to any proposal for the introduction of bimetallism. The measure which Mr. Daniell proposes for the distress to which the financial business of England is liable from a short supply of gold money is a palliative and nothing more. It will remedy the evil of which he speaks, while at the same time it will inflict a serious injury on India. The proposal for the direct imposition of taxation in gold in this country is one which cannot be seriously entertained for a moment.

Latest News and Notes.

RUMOURS about the Viceroy's resignation are still persistent and it is even stated that His Excellency will retire in June. No official corroboration, however, has been made of the report. His Excellency's health is said to disagree with the Indian climate very much and Simla, it is said, does not suit him at all. It was, therefore, in contemplation that His Excellency should visit Mysore at an early date and pass the summer in Otcamund, which has now become impossible, having regard to the Manipur embroglio during which the Viceroy cannot very well leave the seat of Government. His Excellency will give his annual Eton Dinner at the Viceregal lodge on the 4th of June.

THE *Court Journal* declares that no official statement of Lord Lansdowne's intention to retire from the Indian Viceroyalty has been made, but asserts that speculation is rife as to who should succeed the Viceroy. The *Court Journal* thinks it is possible, but not certain, that the office would be offered to a Conservative Peer, and mentions the names of Lord Dunraven and Lord Windsor. Lord Dunraven is commended, because of his cleverness, while Lord Windsor's chief claim is that he is "very wealthy"; it is added that he is a man of high promise. These noblemen, however, are set aside for a connection of the Queen's—by marriage. "If the Duke of Fife," says the *Court* newspaper, "would accept the position, the choice would, it is believed, be extremely popular in India, and equally applauded in England; Scotland, of course, not excepted."

AS announced before His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor returned to the Presidency on Monday last. There was a fair gathering at the Howrah Station to meet His Honor and Lady Elliott.

WE regret to hear that owing to failing health, Lord Dufferin is compelled to retire from the diplomatic service.

LORD DUFFERIN'S statue in Calcutta will not be put in position, we understand, till the next cold weather when Lord Dufferin's portrait is also expected to arrive.

SERIOUS complaints have reached us regarding the manner in which the last B. L. Examination of the Calcutta University was conducted. We find from the *Gazette* that one Syed Ali Belgrami is first on the list of successful candidates. We are credibly informed, however, that the marks as originally sent in by the examiners showed that one Satis Chandra Mitra, who now stands second, stood first. At a meeting of the examiners, the question was raised as to whom the gold medal should be awarded. Three of the Examiners were of opinion that the medal should be awarded to Syed Ali, as he showed greater merit than the other. On enquiry it was found, that there was difference of only *one mark* between the candidates, and so it was contended that the papers did not show such marked difference as to prevent Syed Ali from getting the medal. One of the Examiners officiously volunteered to give two marks more to Syed Ali, *without even taking the trouble of re-examining the papers*, thus making the difference more pronounced. This irregular proceeding was brought to the notice of the Syndicate. There was, we understand, a warm discussion about the matter, at its meeting on Saturday before last. It was pointed out that the examiners had not followed the rules laid down by the Syndicate for conducting the Examination, and that, therefore, the papers should be sent back to them for re-examination. This was objected to on the ground that such interference by the Syndicate with the dis-

cretion of examiners would not be justifiable. We are surprised to hear that it was also contended that the rules, which were laid down by the Syndicate, were not binding upon the Examiners, in asmuch as they are *not confirmed* by the Senate. This is certainly a novel view of the question, and it was evidently put forward to support a foregone conclusion. The Syndicte decided by a majority that the report of the Examiners should be adopted, although the examination was *not conducted* in strict accordance with the rules laid down for their guidance. This is a decision which is not calculated to give satisfaction to the public. To restore confidence in the fairness and integrity of the Examination, it is absolutely necessary that the Senate should enquire into the matter.

WE understand that one of the items of business which will be brought forward for consideration at the annual meeting of the Senate on Saturday next is that in para 9 of the Byelaws relating to the Syndicate, in place of the word "order", the words "frame rules for the conduct of" be substituted. This has a very innocent look about it, and is likely to escape the attention of the Senators. Any one who would take the trouble to enquire into the matter, however, will find that the proposed change would add immensely to the powers already possessed by the Syndicate. As the Byelaw stands at present it is the duty of the Syndicate simply to order examinations in conformity with the regulations; but as regards *the mode* in which they are to be conducted, the Syndicate can frame byelaws and regulations as may be necessary, *subject to the approval of the Senate*. If the suggested alteration be adopted, such approval by the Senate will be rendered nugatory. The consequence will be that the last shred of power possessed by the Senate will be taken away from it. In other words, the Syndicate will in future be armed with such arbitrary powers, as will make the Senate a non-entity. We hope the Senators will not allow such an encroachment upon their legitimate powers. It is absolutely necessary that the rules should provide checks by which the fairness and integrity of the examinations should be tested, and it was evidently with this view that bye-law 11, which renders *approval by the Senate* absolutely necessary, was framed. If the proposed change be adopted, this bye-law will be a dead letter. The consequence will be that the Syndics will manipulate the results of the Examinations according to their individual idiosyncracies. It is the duty of the Senate now to assert its authority, and reject the change proposed without a dissentient voice.

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174 CANDIDATES have qualified themselves for the B. A. degree, and 761 candidates have passed the F. A. Examination. Of the B. A's, 72 graduated with honours: 22 in English; and 21 in Sanskrit. In the First Arts list, 31 have passed in the first, 188 in the second and 542 in the third division.

THE Hindu School and the Hare School have commenced morning sittings from Wednesday last, which is a welcome change to the poor boys. The Colleges and private Schools might well follow suit; for studies are bound to progress better in the cool of the morning than in the scorching and grilling heat of the day, which seems to be steadily in the increase. The heat is already insufferable and it is not difficult to foresee whatMay and June may have in store for us. The Mofussil Courts sit in the morning and there is no reason why the same thing should not be done in Calcutta. The suitors, the Judges and the advocates would be all the better for the change and the experiment is seriously worth trying, as the heat is perceptibly increasing every summer.

WE learn with pleasure that there is a proposal to raise the Rungpore School to the status of a College; and we can only hope that it will be favourably received by the Educational authorities, who are doing their very best now-a-days to cut down our schools and colleges to a minimum. The result of the last Entrance Examination does credit to the school management and better health of the district makes the success of the college, if sanctioned, very probable. There was a similar proposal sometime ago which could not be developed owing to the then sanitary condition of the place. Raja Govindlal Roy is interesting himself in the project which is a safe guarantee of its success.

THE Calcutta Public Library has effected many improvements and others will come no doubt when the funds improve. Could not however something be done, in the meanwhile, in these days of cheap India Rubber Stamps, to get the Library a better seal to seal its books with or is the management irretrievably in love with, the existing historical ugliness if we may so call it?

WE regret to hear that Mr. Manickjee Rustomjee owing to failing health has been obliged to resign his seat on the board of Governors of the Mayo Native Hospital. Mr. Manickjee Rustomjee was appointed Governor of the Hospital in July 1863, and was thus connected with that Institution for upwards of 27 years. In accepting his resignation the Governors very properly recorded their "deep regret at the loss of his long continued and valuable services," and tendered to him "their best and cordial thanks for the same." The Mayo Hospital is not the only public Institution with which Mr. Manickjee's name has been honestly associated. He has rendered long and distinguished services to the District Charitable Society, and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. There has been no public movement within the last thirty years in which Mr. Manickjee did not take an active part. He won the confidence of both the native and European communities, and commanded their esteem. Mr. Manickjee has been among us since 1837, and was appointed Sheriff of Calcutta in 1874. He has been essentially a public man, and has in the words of his biographer, been pursuing "a brilliant career of usefulness for over half a century." It is rather strange to us that this Grand Old Man of the Parsee Community has not yet recieved any recognition from Government of his eminent public services. Duriug the dark days of the Mutiny he stood firm by Government, and placed his resources at its command, and provided accommodation to Europeon troops at one of his large buildings on the bank of the river at Cossipur. In accepting his liberal offer the Goverrtment of Lord Canning conveyed to him their cordial thanks. One reason why Mr. Maniekjee, Rustomjee has not yet received any public recognition of his services seems to us to be that owing to retiring disposition and unassuming manners his services have not attracted that attention which they eminently deserve. He is now in his seventy-sixth year, and it is high time that a title of distinction should now be conferred upon him.

We are glad to learn that the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Manickjee on the Board of Government of the Mayo Hospital has been filled by his son Mr. H. M. Rustomjee. The mantle of the father has fallen on a worthy son. Mr. H. M. Rustomjee is connected with several public Institutions in this city. in the management of all of which he takes an active part, rendering valuable services to all of them.

THE proposal of the Bombay International Exhibition has been revived again. The last proposal had to be shelved, owing to financial difficulties inspite of a promising guarantee Fund, and then came the opportune request of the Prince of Wales to put the exhibition off for a while lest it interfered with the Colonial exhibition. Those well informed in the matter are not, however, sanguine as to the ultimate success of the new project.

A MUNSIFF of Serampore refused to admit a plaint, because it was written on foolscap paper, and not on the time-honoured 'cartridge demi', for which Government charges the somewhat fabulous price of a pice a half-sheet, or twelve annas to the quire. *Advalorem* Court fee is payable under the law but not the extra pices. The enterprising plaintiff, therefore, appealed against the Munsiffs' fiat and succeeded. The District Judge of Hughly held that it is quite enough for pleadings to be written on durable and uniform paper and it does not make the slightest difference as to whether it happens to be "Cartridge demi, or foolscap. The sale of the former is likely to be affected by the ruling which the Board of Revenue will hardly relish and may resent.

MR. GOSCHEN presents the Budget on the 23rd in the House of Commons.

A SUM of £400,000 in gold has been withdrawn from the Bank of England. This was reported to be for the Austrian Government, who are stated to be collecting gold for the purpose of creating a gold tandard. It was calculated that if this report was true, Austria would absorb one million in gold monthly until the end of the year. The report, however, is not true and it has been authoritativeiy denied in Vienna.

THE latest news from Miranzai states that on the afternoon of the 8th, a party of six men of the 6th Punjab Infantry was attacked near Hangu on the Hangu-Derband road. The Naik in command was wounded severely. The attack was repulsed, and two of the enemy wounded. A few shots were fired into Baliamin Camp on the night of the 7th instant. All was quiet at Derband up to the evening of the 10th. The strength of the enemy is variously estimated at 5,000 and upwards. They are busily engaged in making sungas and destroying the roads that have been made. They state that they will not attack the villages, their quarrel being only with the Government of India.

THE High Court Judges of Madras, the Local Government, and the legal profession are much exercised about the recent matters connected with the High Court. The order of the Government of India to reduce the number of Judges to five has led the Judges to communicate direct with the Secretary of State. The Local Government recently proposed to abolish the original-side Registrar, but the Chief Justice protested, and the Government gave way.

THOSE who crowed very loud about Indian immorality, in connection with the Consent Bill Agitation may read the following telegram of Reuter with melancholy interest:—Warrants have been issued for the arrest of Captain Verney, Member for Buckingham, and Mr. Decobain, Member for Belfast East, the former in connection with an attempt to procure a girl for immoral purposes, the latter on a charge of committing unnatural offences. An old Barone case the other day is still vivid in public mind and the maiden tribute to modern Babylon appears to be by no means stinted. Though a recent *cause celebre* was suppressed as many nobles in the land would be compromised by exposure, indications of the real state of affairs in civilized societies do leak out now and then sanctimonious veneer notwithstanding. Is it any wonder that we prefer barbarism?

PERSISTENT reports are current in Brussels that Mr. H. M. Stanley will be appointed Governor of the Congo Free State

THE second Criminal Sessions of the High Court will commence on the 29th instant. The Bramho murder case is likely to be included in the calender.

Pro Bono Publico writes to a contemporary :

The authorities have permitted a *shamiana* to be erected by Mahommedans in Wellington Square for the purposes of *worship*. A block of masonry with water pipes was erected a few years back, and I believe a Mahommedan guards it for the sole use of his co-religionists. Now we have this *shamiana*, and it will not be surprising if a few years hence the Mahommedan community claim a prescriptive right to the use of a certain part of the Square, and even wish to erect a mosque on it. If Hindoos, Brahmos, and Christians apply for permission to erect *shamianas*, can it be refused ?

The Corporation has evidently grown more tolerant since the days of the crusade against open-air preaching. The City Fathers may, however, look into this intolerent complaint.

AN open-air meeting of spinners who are on strike took place at Bradford on Tuesday. The proceedings becoming disorderly, the police attempted to disperse the crowd, but were stoned, several being injured. The Riot Act was then read, and troops dispersed the mob at the point of the bayonet, inflicting slight wounds on several rioters.

MR. COTTON goes to England on leave as originally arranged.

WE read in a morning contemporary :—

A report has reached us that there was a serious disturbance at Tarkessur a few days ago between the local police and some *Sanyasis*. It appears that a missionary gentleman, whilst holding forth at an open-air meeting, made some remarks which offended the *Sanyasis*, and they assaulted him. The police who went to his rescue were also assaulted, and matters apparently took such a serious turn that assistance had to be obtained from Serampore. It is said that the Serampore contingent were also assaulted, but eventually the police succeeded in arresting several *Sanyasis*, who will shortly be placed on their trial before the Deputy Magistrate of Serampore.

And the poor *Sanyasis* will be punished no doubt. But why do missionary gentlemen officiously go in and do things which they have no business whatever to do? A little good sense and discretion on their part might avoid much of these mischiefs and disturbances that we hear of now and then. There is no justification for abusing peoples' gods and goddesses in a filthy manner, when people have assembled in millions to worship them in holy places and at prescribed festivals. To preach the Gospel need not necessarily mean to be offensive to peoples' religious susceptiblities.

THOSE opposing the Jurisdiction reform of the Small Cause Court, will read with melancholy interest the following report of a recent case which we take from the *Englishman* :—

A Case under the Stamp Act.—At the High Court yesterday, before Mr. Justice Wilson, judgment was delivered in the matter of the suit of Mohendonath Bose vs. Obinash Chunder Roy and two others, the facts in connexion with which were reported about a week ago. It will be remembered that an application was made to His Lordship by Mr. Pugh, under section 38 of the Small Cause Court Act for an order for the rehearing of the above suit which was dismissed by the Chief Judge of that Court on the 31st ultimo. The petition was presented on the last day within which it should have been made, and permission was granted to move the Court on the following motion day. When it came on, it was found that the petition had not been properly stamped, that is, in place of the proper stamp of the value of Rs. 150 or Rs. 200 it bore a seven rupee stamp. The stamping came under section 71. The question then arose whether the Court had power to allow the petition to be restamped. His Lordship, after hearing Mr. Pugh on the matter, took time to consider the point as to whether he had power to remedy the defect. In delivering judgment yesterday His Lordship said that the petition had been presented without the Court Fee stamps required by section 71 on the last possible day when it could be received, eight days having elapsed before it had even been presented in such a form as it could be received. His Lordship did not think that this defect could be cured after the lapse of eight days, and, in consequence, he felt himself bound to refuse to make the order now asked for.

The report is faulty in this respect that the case is not under the Stamp Act at all, but under Section 71 of the Small Cause Court Act. Section 38 reserves to suitors the right of taking their cases valued above a thousand rupees to the High Court for rehearing under certain conditions, in which event, the *advalorem* Court fees payable on a plaint in the Small Cause Court has to be paid over again in the High Court. This rule is so little known that on many occasions have this Court fee difficulties arisen and it has been too late to move the High Court. Is it not patent to those obtuse-minded suitors that it would be much better to pay only a twelve rupee Court fee in the High Court in the first instance, as that is the highest fee chargeable on a plaint there? Instead of that they pay under the present law the *advalorem* fees, and Counsels and attorney's charges, for in most cases they have to be engaged twice over again, and often are they too late as the plaintiff has been in this case, in applying to the High Court for redress. The smaller cases as we have shown before, are tried in the High Court much more cheaply and expeditiously than in the Small Cause Court. The costs of trials apart, the costs of transferring Small Cause Court decrees to the High Court again for execution are great, while in the case of High Court decrees they would be mere nothing in comparison.

It is stated that the East Indian Railway Workshop has recently turned out a carriage, which it is proposed to put on the line for those who care to pay an extra charge to have a cool journey. The carriage has been constructed so as to admit of ice being carried in the panneling ; and when run to Burdwan on a trial trip the other day the temperature in the carriage was no higher than 75 degrees, in the hottest time of the day. This will be a welcome change no doubt to those who can pay for it. But could not something be done also for the ordinary passengers. at least in the first and second classes. The *kkus khus* wheel to be met with in mail train, may also without much expenditure be provided in the ordinary slow trains.

Mr. C. B. Garret, District Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs, having gone on two months' leave, Mr. Rampini, the Additional Sessions Judge, will act for him ; Mr. Kellener, late of Hoogly, will do the Sessions work for Mr. Rampini.

THE *Kumbha mela,* with Hurdwar as the chief centre of attraction, is over, and the millions of pilgrims that assembled at the holy bathing places, including thousands of sadhus and sannyasis have quickly dispersed to their homes in the various parts of the country. The Police and sanitary arrangements for the most part were all that could be desired and no casualties are reported. Of course, following in the train of such a vast assembly, disease is bound to break out.

THE Queen's Birthday will be cclebrated at Simla and throughout India, on the 30th of May. There will be the usual Levee and State Dinner on that day, and the Birthday Ball will be given on the 2nd June.

Correspondence

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENCE.]

London, March 27th 1881.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

DURING the week we have had furnished to us the main heads of the financial statement of Sir David Barbour, which you will have been able to study in more detail and with a familiarity the ordinary Englishman may envy, but cannot claim to have, however, much he may regret it. The subject has furnished a couple of paragraphs in Sir W. Hunter's summary of Indian affairs, and the "*Times*" has had an article dealing with the main topics of the statement, though entirely in its financial and not at all in its political, administrative or social aspects as they must present themselves to the minds of Indians. The impression conveyed by it the writer says is that the contents are satisfactory on the whole, although they do not entirely dispel the cloud that seems perpetually to hang over the future of Indian finance. War, famine, against which there can be no security—head the list of causes from which financial difficulties may arise. The probability of a further fall in opium, decreased railway traffic. and a fall in the rate of exchange are others. On the subject of military expenditure it is remarked that apart from the exceptional demands of war this is wholly under the control of the Government except so far as due provision for the defence of the country at all points, which has not yet been made, throws difficulties in the way of retrenchment of expenses.

In regard to exchange it points out that the gain from this source has been a windfall and nothing more as the currency changes in the United States have not had the permanent effects that were expected. Thus the exchange for 1891-2 has had to be put at a figure below the minimum but far below that to which it rose during the current financial year.

The "*Times*" supports Sir David Barbour in the contention that it is a delusion to suppose a low state of exchange is beneficial to Indian trade; arguing that in time trade so adapts itself to mere conditions that the rate of exchange is a matter of indifference to the Indian trader as such. What is really damaging are fluctuations in exchange. To make payments in a currency the value of which is uncertain from day to day must be an affair of pure speculation and the trade between England and India was thus for a time reduced to mere gambling. It is to the interest of the Indian Government that exchange should be high ; it is to the interest of the *bona fide* trader that it should be as nearly as may be fixed.

The suggestion in favour of the adoption of a double standard by this country is "dismissed at once." The plan of a gold standard finds favour with the "*Times*"; and the prospect of injury to Western nations by its adoption does not alarm it. The change in the Indian standard would probably not involve any more drain of gold than goes on now. Silver would be the money most commonly in use and the amount of gold which could be coined could be easily furnished out of the large hoards of the metal which exist already in the country.

The difficulty is in bringing such a new system into play. Rupees now coined would have to pass at a fixed rate in gold, not fluctuating from day to day. They might pass for their intrinsic value as bullion, and there might be a supplementary new silver coinage of token money on the same principle as that of England. This, I may remark, is the coinage of a fixed quantity of silver and the limiting of the legal tender get to the amount of forty shillings. This would make necessary a special arrangement with landholders under the permanent settlement and care would have to be taken that the real burdens of each class in the country should be as nearly as possible what they are now.

This it is asserted would be not merely a temporary buf a final cure as far at least as the evil admits of cure.

"One contingent benefit to this country would be that we should hear no more about bi-metallism. India has been its great stronghold, and if its advocates were no longer recruited from the interested ranks of Indians and Anglo-Indians, they would soon diminish to something very near the vanishing point.

Sir W. Hunter referring to the abovementioned article remarks that the Indian Finance Department thus accepts the principle so long advocated by the "*Times*" and by the soundest currency—thinkers in this country. This is no doubt the teaching of the orthodox and historic school of English political economists but a movement sprang into great vigour here sometime ago, which had in its support a wonderful mixture of political parties from tories like Mr. Chaplin, the Minister for Agriculture, to representatives of the artizans and agricultural labourers. Of late very little has been heard of it; and along with its companion movement of "fair-trade," another economical heresy in the eyes of the standard economists, it seems now to exist only in a state of suspended animation

AN INDIAN CENSUS AT OXFORD.

I learn from the Indian affair's article that a Census has been taken of the Indian students at Oxford apparently on the purpose of drawing some conclusion respecting the age of Consent Bill. There are 17 in all: nine being Hindus comprising representatives of both the Marhata and Bengalee Brahmans. Three are Mahommedans. Four are Christians, one of them being a lady student, and two of Eurasian and Portuguese descent. One is a Parsee. Their ages vary from about 19 years to 31 years. Of these 17 only two are married. Their ages being about 26 and 29 respectively, while a third is a widower about 39 years old.

As the writer remarks it is easy to exaggerate the significance of isolated statistic of this sort. But in addition it may be also observed that such a fact as this thus brought forward, rather strengthens the contention of those who have been against legislation in the nature of coercion upon such a matter as marriage in India. It was not needed for this particular class of persons at all events; and if there is as I gather a growing feeling amongst the educated classes in favour of girls not joining their husbands until mental and physical maturity is reached then at least it occurs to an Englishman to say "But will not the less educated classes follow the educated classes in due order of time"?

However, as the Act is an accomplished fact I must accept it as such in the English spirit, and not venture upon argument which I feel are more safely left to Indians themselves.

FURTHER ADMISSION OF NATIVES OF INDIA TO THE CIVIL SERVICE.

You will receive by this post a re-post of a paper read at a meeting of the East India Association by A. K. Connell Esq. M. A., F. S. S. on the 23rd of this month which deals in a wise and liberal manner and with full knowledge of the above subject on this important matter. As it will be in your hands at the same time that this letter reaches you I shall not do more than thus call attention to it except to notice one sentence in it which particularly struck me in consequence of a conversation I recently had with an Indian gentleman who was contrasting the candour, courtesy fair-mindedness and receptivity which Indians and Indian subjects met with from people here with the dogmatism arrogance and want of courtesy which were only too often displayed by our official countrymen in India. The writer quotes Lord Ripon who says. "The influences which English youth, are exposed in this country (India) are to no small extent of a narrow kind, powerful in a limited society, but not calculated to keep alive the best tendencies of English opinion. What we want in India are Englishmen in the best and fullest meaning of the term able to hold their own in the midst of narrowing influences and local prejudices, not English boys who are too young and too unformed in character not to fall, as a rule, into the current of the opinion in which their lot is cast."

I shall not go in further nor set out the deduction which Lord Ripon and the writer of the paper draw from these statements, it will be found more at large than I could give it here: but its truth is obvious.

I may mention that another meeting of the Association will be held on the 29th of April. at which Lord Reay, the late Governor of Bombay, will preside when a paper will be read by Mr. Charles Tapper on "the progress of the Punjab." Lord Reay's presence on this occasion is looked forward to with much pleasure. He is one of those men who may be said to adorn every subject which they treat by reason of the knowledge and wisdom they bring to its consideration.

THE HYDERABAD CHLOROFORM COMMISSION.

Since the report of this important Commission on the use of anaesthetics was published here it has revived an immense amount of attention and criticism from the medical world. The conservatism of the medical profession does not readily give way and the conclusion of the Commission ran counter to the generally received opinion that the danger of death from chloroform is from the direct action of the drug upon the heart but rather indirectly through its principal effect upon the respiration. The "Lancet" our leading medical paper has had its columns free of all manner of tests from experience of this conclusion and pointing out the danger of being led by it to devote attention to the respiration and neglecting the action of the heart. The Doctors who persist in their attachment to the old theory of their college days may find something to give them pause in the report of a death under chloroform which I find in the papers. As ussual the patient who thus died was supposed to have died because the heart was weak but at the enquiry into the cause of death it was *found that the post mortern* examination had shown clearly that the heart was healthy enough but that the lungs have been affected by pleurisy. The Doctor as it happened did not know of the lungs having been so affected and he confessed, no doubt with a knowledge of what the Hyderabad experiment had proved, that had he known of this he would not have administered chloroform, or would have waited until the lungs had recovered their strength.

It may be worth mentioning that the London and Edinburgh schools of medicine, the two leading medical and surgical bodies of Great Britain, have a traditional rivalry based upon their respective use of chloroform and ether. The great discoverer of the anaesthetical properties of chloroform Sir James Young Simpson, was famous professor in the Edinburgh University. His renown, and the pride which Edinburgh feels in it, have led t hem to champion the cause of chloroform as against the other which is the pet anaesthetic of the English surgeons.

Pure science like pure religion is often heavily weighed with a load of very unscientific or irreligious feelings and even Hyderabad Commission's home to make large allowances for them.

INDIAN AND ENGLISH POOR.

Attention is directed strongly from time to time to the condition of the vast amount of poverty and destitution in the midst of the richest community in the world by dreadful amounts of deaths from starvation. The accounts of general "Booh of the salvation army concerning the lives of our "submerged tempt" the three millions who in a population of some thirty millions are being in a condition of chronic proverty and want no doubt have reached as far as India, and you are aware how bitterly powerless we have felt ourselves the attempting to deal with such an awful condition of things. For about four hundred years now, since the days of Queen Elizabeth, we have had a system of relief intended to secure at least a subsistence to the injoin and helpless; and it has also been administered with the object of discouraging as far as possible the thriftless and idle from taking advantage of the provision. This latter element has so much predominated indeed that to have reached a point where a person feels compelled to accept it is to have reached the lowest depth of degrading proverty. The term "pauper" has come to be a word expressive of the utmost contempt; and when the honest poor who from so many causes for which they are blameless such as ill-health, failure of the means of livelihood, to say nothing of the many injustices of our social system, which condemns large classes to pass their lives in occupations which provide them with no resources beyond the necessities of the day, find themselves no longer able to find food for themselves, they frequently prefer to die of actual starvation rather than take refuge in what we call the "work house "or" poor house" or in some parts the "bastile," from the famous State prison of France whose terrible recollections are a stock subject in all histories of the worst days of France before the Revolution. One of such cases has this week occurred which has shocked everybody and led to a great deal of talk on account of the heroism displayed by a mere child in his endeavours to supply the want of his mother whose horror of the poor house led her to accept death from slow starvation rather than have recourse to the legal relieving officers. I need not go into the dreadful particulars of the case, and I refer to it for the purpose of calling your attention to some remarks that have been made in connection with it, in which India has been mentioned and a feature of your society commented upon as supplying a deficiency only too prominent in our own. It is pointed out that in India there exist no Poor Law system at all, and yet deaths from starvation are by no means frequent: and this is owing to the strength of the family tie: a needy person must and will be temporarily at least helped by the member of his "name" most able to help him: and the police even look after this and enforce it. We are behind the orientals in this matter as in many others, hence the constantly occurring instances of deaths by hopeless poverty and unrelieved solitude which disgrace the wealth and baffle the christian charity of our colossal Metropolis. In consequence of this want of the spirit of clanship which keeps the industrious poor from starving, we English do not yet possess the necessary method for assisting deserving but distressed people without disgracing them in their own eyes.

Upon this remarks I make no comment of my own except to say that I suppose they must be taken to refer only to such individual cases of poverty as would occur in the best conceivable state of society. Even the most uninformed amongst us has heard of Indian famines though many of us have not yet learned the facts contained in Mr. Digby's terrible indictment. I quote them as I do others in order that you may have expressions of English opinion without much regard to whether they are right or wrong. Indeed it is possible to conceive that they may be more valuable and significant to you if th y are wrong than if they happen to be right. A paradox easy enough to understand as one well knows—there are so many illustrations of it in so many kinds of affairs.

I should be sorry if I conveyed the impression that we let our poor die of starvation without pity and sympathy and attempting to help them. These qualities are not wanting—they were never more active: but there is a great separation of classes; a great want of knowledge by one half the world of how the other half lives. Our religious and charitable agencies act as gobetweens; but they are not as effective as they might be; and the proud isolation and independence which are our national characteristics are particularly strong amongst a certain section of the poor who hold themselves aloof from all religious or charitable societies. The churches are often centres of charity and benevolence but the great mass of our work people are not attendants upon religious ceremonies.

THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE AND THE STUDY OF ITALIAN.

THE exclusion of Italian language and literature from the range of possible subjects of examination for the Indian Civil Service which has been effected by the new scheme of the Civil Service Commissioners has given rise to protest from many quarters. Thus the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, St. Andrews, Aberdeen, Glasgow (these last three being Scottish) and University College, London have urged that the proposed exclusion would be a serious discouragement to the study of that language throughout great Britain.

The answer of the Commissioners to this is given by Mr. Poste the Director of Examinations, in a letter to the Under-Secretary of State for India.

He says the new scheme of examining was expressly designed in order that young men who had obtained the highest honours at Oxford and Cambridge might be formed amongst the successful candidates. In consequence it was necessary to accommodate the examination to the general course of study prescribed in such places, so that those who had prepared themselves for the schools of Liberal Humamories or Mathematics in Oxford and in the Mathematical or Classical Triposes in Cambridge should find that

DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER.—This famous and popular remedy has been found to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human fame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Mumps, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Topthache, Neuralgia, Colic, Rheumatism; Paralisis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, and Eruptions on the Skin. Highly recommended by the Medical faculty. Thousands of Testimonials of its marvellous cures. Call for Darlington's Pain Curer and see you get it. Per bottle, Re. 1; large size, Re. 2; packing and postage As. 8. May be had from Messrs. Darlington & Co., at their establishment 49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVLR OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICY IN CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The Medical Profession of all countries now consider Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil as incomparably the most valuable remedy for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. No remedy so rapidly restores the exhausted strength, improves the nutritive functions, stops emaciation, checks the perspiration, quiets the cough and expectoration or produces a more marked and favourable influence on the local malady. Dr. Waudby, Physician to the Hereford Infirmary, writes:—"I can take Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil without any difficulty or dislike, and with as little inconveniene as water alone. Not only in my own case, but in many others I have seen, it has caused on improvement of chest symptoms and and an increase of weight, so soon and so lastingly, as to be quite remarkable. I believe Dr. de Jongh's Oil to be the most valuable remedy we possess for chronic and constutional disease." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, pints, and quarts, with his stam and signature and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Togle) was (Jan. 189') "much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to imemory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great bent from your lessons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, etc., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal C. S. "Having seen the base attempt to rob you, I send, unsolicited, the statement that your system is of great advantage to strong memory incalculable aid to weak one."—Rev. Dr. J. M ,Buckly. Excellent travelling companion."—Capt. J. B. Haye R. N. Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Saderud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. C. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct. 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford.—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th February. 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil, Rs. 76; Ten pupils, Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road Calcutta or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

their studies were directly serviceable for the Indian Civil Service examination. There are now twenty subjects to choose from instead of fourteen as before and they include French and German besides English; to include Italian would add to the expense of the examination and delay the publication of the result, another objection is that Italian lends itself readily to the objectionable feature of competitive examinations—"mark hunting." This suggests that the Commissioners intended to do what they are usually credited with having an intention of doing viz discouraging the private "crammers" a prolific race that has sprung up in consequence of the introduction of the examination system into the "services." But after all cramming and mark hunting are far from being unknown even at the Universities.

The Commissioners have a good answer to the charge that they are discouraging the study of Italian in the reply that they cannot be said to discourage a form of learning which is either not systematically organized or else very little studied at our Universities especially as they remark also that it is no part of their duty to prescribe an educational curriculum but only to attain an adequate supply of highly educated candidates for the Indian service. If provision were made for the study of Italian at the Universities and were extensively made use of, the Commissioners say they would be prepared to reconsider the question.

Probably neither the exclusion nor the inclusion of the Italian language is likely to have much appreciable effect on the destinies of India and the whole affair is very much like what we call settling the amount of difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

The Easter Holidays.

One of our great annual holidays has begun this week. Accordingly Parliament and the Law Courts have risen for a period of about ten days, and for three or four days a good deal of ordinary business is suspended and thousands of people of all ranks and conditions take the opportunity of leaving Town and going for excursions into and residence in the country for a time. This is the season too when our citizen army of volunteers take occasion to meet together at various centres and go through a series of drills and shows—fighting or to give them a more dignified name military manœuverings. Portions of the regular army also join them and there is a great deal of burning of blank cartridges going on. The popular holiday begins with Good Friday and ends with Easter Monday and in reference to the first of these days it may not be amiss to remark upon the curious manner in which we have turned what in theory is a day of humiliation and sorrow into one of holidaying and merry-making. We are supposed to commemorate the death of the founder of our religion and to go to church, but it is a custom not much honoured in the observance except by the Roman Catholics and a section of the English Church which approaches as near as it dare to Roman Catholic observances. To a certain extent the non-conformist churches have of late years attempted to revive the religious spirit of the day, but it is comparatively a feeble attempt and on the whole it is kept with little reference to its historic significance. Very curiously our Sundays which are historically connected with the belief in the resurrection of the founder of Christianity, and should, therefore, be occatsons of joyfulness, have been transformed into days of rigorous austerity and severe religious exercises: though this idea of the day is gradually breaking down. Our highest classes have emancipated themselves from it, as also the lowest, who do not indeed take religion in any of its aspects much into account: but the great masses of the middle classes have still a superstitutious regard for this tradition of Judaism out of which Christianity arose. It is one of the points which illustrate both the strength and the weaknesses of that particular section of our society.

In view of this holiday the proceedings in Parliament have been very much wanting in interest during the week and the chief work has consisted in the discussion of small tries which present no large features of interest. Perhaps the only exception to this has been certain questions relating to the New Foundland Fisheries Bill which has been disturbing public opinion on account of the serious differences to which it has given rise between this country. and the Colony of New Foundland: and on account too of a consequent danger to our friendly relations with France in regard to the latter exercise of certain rights within the territory of that Colony which the New Foundlanders are bitterly resenting.

I shall refer to this again.

The Aston Election.

This matter I mentioned last week. Since then the election has been held and very astonishing the result has been. The Home Rulers could not be said to have expected victory but they were certainly not prepared for the crushing defeat they experienced. Of course in proportion as they were disconcerted the Unionists were triumphant and they consider it a sufficient answer to the oft repeated taunt of their opponents that country had changed its mind on the matter, proof positive being the result of the bye-elections. I believe it is the only English election that has taken place since the great disruption of the Irish party and no one can be so stupid as not to confess that considering the lamentable scences of disorder going on in Ireland at present there is to be expected some reaction in the constituencies. Sensible Home Rulers confess this but even to them the Aston election was a shock giving as it did a larger majority to the Unionists than on the occasion of the last election in the early days of Home Rule policy of Mr. Gladstone. The most plausible line of argument adopted to explain the defeat from the Home Rule point is that Aston is a peculiar constituency as it is the centre of the remarkable influence of Mr. Chamberlain in his native town of Bourningham of which Aston is a part. They contend that beyond this town his influnce does not extend while within it he is almost supreme. Mr. Chamberlain himself of course adopts a more modest view and in reply to a letter he says: "I hope the result of the Aston election will be an encouragement to Unionists everywhere. The constituency is almost entirely a working class, one of the enormous majority was due entirely to the determination of the working classes not to allow their interests to be postponed any longer to the clamorous agitation of Mr. Parnell and the paid "patriots" who a short time ago followed his lead."

The Challenge to our Parnell.

I mentioned last week that there was some chance of the fierce fight that is still proceeding in Ireland between the followers of Mr. Parnell and the anti-parnellites being put to some kind of issue by the challenge chich Mr. Mawnee Healy had sent to Mr. Parnell to make good his boast of resigning his seat at Cork. Since then violent letters have passed between them in which they charge each other with trickery and intention of dishonest dealing in the matter. In fact they both pretend they want to fight but there is so much quarrelling over the conditions that it seems much as if they would like to get out of the combat of which they are both afraid. On the whole perhaps Mr. Healy seems to have acted the more straight-forwardly of the two and Mr. Parnell is probably really more afraid of the test than is Mr. Healy.

One episode of their faction fighting now going on in Ireland is an injury which has happened to or been inflicted upon M. Tim Healy the able and vigorous but very bitter tongued Anti-Parnellite who has been Mr. Parnell's most formidable opponent at and since the famous meeting in Committee Room No. 15 of the House of Commons. The version of the National Press (the new paper established in opposition to Mr. Parnell and the "Freemans Journal and United Ireland about Mr. Pernell got into his own hands) as to this injury is that Mr. Healy was attacked at Cork by a prominent Parnellite in a treacherous manner. Mr. Healy was followed by a hooting crowd from a certain building and when he reached his noble this particular Parnellite followed him to his room. In a friendly manner Mr. Healy put out his hand to salute him. Without making any answer the visitor struck Mr. Healy a violent blow in the face embedding one of the glasses of his spectacles in his left eye. It is feared the sight may be lost. You may remember a similar injury to Mr. Parnell but it turned out that it was not so serious as had been represented. So it may be with Mr. Healy. The following version given by his alleged assailant in the *Freemans' Journal* is as correct as it is amusing when contrasted with the previous story. After giving an account of some conversation of a very amicable but not of a violent kind which took place between them he says "at the time Mr. Healy was standing by the side of the bed, and either slipping or becoming weak, he fell heavily to the ground. In the fall his head came in contact with a portion of the bedstead and breaking one of the glasses in his spectacles he sustained serious injuries to his left eye." There must be in one of these two accounts a good deal of what our poet Browning calls.

"That instructive reasoning whereby the life brings to the object the thing that it would have it see."

Most things from Ireland are of this nature unfortunately.

The incidents connected with the impending Slego election seem to promise favourably for the success of the Anti-Parnellite candidate.

The results of certain local elections not for Parliament but for local bodies, which assume a political aspect are said to be decidedly agaist Mr. Parnell.

The Newfoundland Fisheries Bill.

It would be necessary to go back some hundred and seventy years to find the origin of the present dispute between the French fishermen who have the right of catching fish and drying and preparing them for the market on the North and North-West coasts of Newfoundland. When the French lost their possessions in Canada and Newfoundland the treaty of Utrecht which we made with them reserved to them the above rights, and provisions were also inserted that English subjects should not do anything in those regions which should interfere with that right. This has been no doubt an unfortunate thing for the Newfoundlanders for they have been prevented from making free use of their own country. Any time during the century there have been quarrels between the fishermen of France and English subjects and the French have tenaciously held to what they consider valuable rights. At the same time too England though naturally desirous of supporting as far as possible her own colonists has been bound in honour to keep faith with the French. Acts have been passed away in the teeth of the colonists giving powers to the captains of our war vessels on that station to preserve inviolate the rights of France and put pressure upon the angry Newfoundlanders.

Of late matters have become worse owing to the great lobster difficulty. This is a very lucrative business and the French have been taking part in it. The Newfoundlanders assert they have no right to use their reserved territory for this purpose as no provision is made for it in the treaty. To this the French set up the general provisions whereby they are secured from such encroachment as the Newfoundland fishermen have been making by their lobster factories on this territory. In consequence of such encroachments Captain Walker acting under the supposed authority of an Act conferring power upon naval officers pulled down one of these factories. Baird the owner brought an action in the New Foundland Courts against Captain Walker and obtained a verdict with damages. Of course remonstrances have been frequent on the part of the French Government the lobster difficulty has been agreed to be arbitrated upon along with other matters. To the lobster part the New Foundlanders object. In the meantime in consequence of the action against Walker it has been considered necessary to bring in a Bill in the English Parliament to revive certain powers contained in an Act of Parliament of the reign of George II for the purpose of carrying into effect engagements with France respecting fisheries in New Foundland. It was under this Act that Captain Walker had proceeded but it was found that it had been indirectly repealed. The Bill was introduced in the Upper House and it aroused the fiercest indignation on the part of the New Found landers. Questions were asked by members in Parliament and a deputation waited upon Mr. Smith. In consequence of their representations the Bill has been deferred to allow delegates to come from New Foundland and state their case.

It is threatened that if they are coerced it will be necessary te proclaim martial law in the Colony and we have threats of an annexation with America. Taking it altogether is it not a pretty quarrel?

A cheap remedy:—Good advice.—The sages of all times and countries have said that it is better to be advised than to be praised. During great heat acstain from drinking too abundantly, and above all of iced alcoholic drinks: you lose your appetite and when the cold weather approaches you will be a martyr to affections of the stomach- If you want to quench your thirst withour the risk of destroying your stomach, use Guyot's Tar. With a single bottle, you can prepare, if necessary. tar water enough to last for twenty days at least, oou have also the advantage of fortifying the lungs, of purifying the blood and of strengthening yourself against colds and catarrhs.

Extract.

FACTS ABOUT THE CZAR.

(*Globe.*)

There is less actually known about the Czar than about any of the other sovereigns of Europe. The Russian Government is also a subject of continual misrepresentation. The *New York Tribune* says the Czar is one of the handsomest men in Europe. He is now approaching middle life. He is over six feet high and is one of the most powerful of men. He can

twist a horse-shoe with his two hands with the greatest of ease, and in the full flush of his youthful vigour he has been known to bend a wrought-iron poker double by exerting the full strength of his two arms. He always wears uniform. In the privacy of his library, even, he wears undress uniform. He never wears civilian dress except when travelling outside of his own country. He is a magnificient horseman, and His highly educated in every branch of military tactics. He is one of the most accomplished linguists in Europe. He speaks Russian, of course, including several of its dialects, French, German, English, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, and Danish. He is one of the hardest-worked men in Europe. The stories of his always being followed by guards and shadowed by the police to protect him against assassination are idle fictions. He is often in the streets of St. Petersburg riding from his private palace to the Winter Palace,, which is only occupied upon occasions of ceremony, in an open vehicle only accompanied by a staff officer. He has absolutely no time for any ordinary recreation or amusement. The reason for this is simple. He is the personal ruler of over 100,000,000 of people. The form of government of which he is the head makes him a veritable slave to work. Not a single hind of public work can be done in Russia without his personal ukase. No bridge can be built, no roadway constructed—in fact, there is no detail of administration in Russia which does not depend upon his personal will. This complication of the work of a vast empire keeps the Czar occupied from the time he is out of bed in the morning at six o'clock until he retires at 10. To a great extent he has to depend upon his Ministers and the reports of his bureau officers for the Government of Russia is practically a bureaucracy.

Any consideration of the administration of affairs in Russia should be taken in connection with a study of the character of the people governed. They are to a certain extent a semi-barbarous race. A large proportion of them are actually descendants of Asiatic tribes. The Russians are not a cruel people. Their ruling officials are not cruel. Capital punishment is unknown in Russia except for high treason. Murder is punished with transportation to Siberia. The convicts sent out to Siberia are always permitted to take their families with them. With the exception of the life in the mines, the punishment of Siberia is light, the crimes for which people are sent to that province considered. The average of punishment is much lighter than in any civilised country in the world. Life in the mines is hard, as it is in the mines of any country. But in the main, the colony life in Siberia is agreeable. Judge Tree says that he has American evidence of this fact. When he was in St. Petersburg, an American gentleman who had lived 25 years in Siberia visited him. The latter gave the Minister repeated evidence of the fact that, in the main, the life of the convicts in Siberia was pleasant. Except for unusual crimes, the prisoners are not sent to the mines. When they are not sent to the mines they are not confined in any ordinary sense of the word. They are simply obliged to live within certain districts or villages In these places they are as free to transact business, or to do what they like, as before. Some of the convicts become rich. Some times great criminals become prosperous servants in these colony communities. In one Russian colony in Siberia this American gentleman described a domestic service which had for its cook a poisoner, for its butler a burglar, while the others had been sent to Siberia for larceny or some such offence as that. One particular instance came under Minister Tree's notice, where a Russian had been sent to Siberia, and pardoned. He came to St. Petersburg, but remained only a short time. He went back to Siberia, preferring its wider liberty and broader life. People who come from Siberia back to Russia express the same discontent and uneasiness that is sometimes found in our Eastern communities among people who have lived for a long time in the West.

The Russians are intensely superstitious. There is no nation so devoted to the forms of religion as they are. This religious devotion is at the bottom of their love of the Czar, who to them is the head of the Church. There are few Russians who do not believe that the present Czar enjoys special favours from on oigh. Upon the several occasions when his life has been attemped his escapes have been credited to Divine interposition. No escape of the Czar's, however, has made such a deep and profound impression upon the people as that which occurred several years ago in a railway accident in Southern Russia. The Czar was travelling with his family. He was in one coach with the Empress, several servants, and staff officers. In the next car were the two children, the Princess Olga, then six years old, and the Prince, her younger brother. The Minister of the Public Works was also in the train. The Czar ordered the train to be run at the rate of 60 miles an hour. The Minister knew that this was dangerous. The ties, through careless inspection in the neighbourhood, had been allowed to decay. He did not, however, have the courage to confess to the Czar his fears. So he gave the order to run at the speed directed. The excessive vibration of the train from this high speed caused the rails to spread, and the train was run off the track, and the cars were literally crushed. At the time of the accident the Czar was seated at a small table with a favourite dog of the Empress lying at his feet. The Empress was standing in the middle of the car; a servant was just reaching out to hand her a cup of coffee. This servant was killed instantly. The dog at the feet of the Czar was killed. Everyone of the occupants of the car, with the exception of the Emperor and Empress, was either killed outright, mortally wounded, or severely injured. The Emperor and Empress were both held down a few moments by the wreck, but when rescued were found to be not even scratched. The two children in the next car were equally fortunate. One side of the car was torn away, and the two little things were thrown down a high embankment. Yet they escaped without a scratch. The members of the Imperial family were really the only ones on the train who escaped without injury. This account of the accident was given by the Empress to Minister Tree at a private audience. She illustrated the story of this peculiar accident with numerous large photographs which were taken just after the affair. She herself was deeply impressed by the fortunate combination of circumstances which protected her own family.

Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*April* 15, 1891

GENERAL.—Babu Obinash Chundra Mullick, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Baraset, 24-Pergunnahs, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 21st instant.

Rai Kally Pado Mukerji Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the 24-Pergunnahs and is appointed to have charge of the Baraset Sub-Division of that District, during the absence, on leave of Babu Obinash Chadrn Mullick, or until further orders.

Babu Ishan Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave for one month, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 16th February, 1891.

Babu Khudiram Poddar, Sub-Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed furlough for three months, under Article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the furlough granted him uuder the order of the 29th November, 1890.

Babu Jaggobundho Khan, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder Station of the District of Furridpore.

Mr W H Thomson, Deputy Megistrate and Deputy Collector, Hugly, is transferred to the Sudder Station of the District of Burdwan.

Babu Parbati Churn Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is allowed leave for one month and five days, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Babu Amarnath Bhuttacharji, Second Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Presidency Division, is allowed leave for one month, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 20th instant or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr W H D'Oyly, Magistrate and Collector, Mozufferpore, is allowed leave for two months and five days, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st May, 1891.

Mr H J McIntosh, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sewan, Sarun, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Mozufforpore, during the absence, on leave, of Mr W H D'Oyly, or until further orders.

Mr N Bonham-Carter, Offg. Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gopalgunge, Sarun. is also appointed to have charge of the Sewan Sub-Division of that District, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr H J McIntosh, or until further orders,

The following Officiating Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors are posted to the Sudder Stations of the District mentioned opposite their names :—

Moulvi Shaik Abdullah, Shahabad.
Babu Promotha Nath Dutt, Jessore.
Moulvi Syed Ali Hossein, Mozufferpore.
Babu Brojo Durlab Hazra, Howrah.
Babu Nobin Chunder Ker, 24-Pergunnahs.
Babu Prosunno Kumar Das Gupta, Dacca.
Babu Jogendro Nath Sen, Purneah.

Babu Raj Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Furridpore, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Madarpore Sub-Division of that District, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Captain W F Whitehead, Presidency volunteer Reserve Battalion, is allowed leave of absence for four months with effect from the first proximo.

Moulvi Hushmut Hossein, Sub-Deputy Collector, Patna is appointed to act as Special Deputy Collector on but wara work in that District, vice Moulvi Shaik Abdullah.

Mr J Scobell Armstrong, Collector of Customs, Calcutta, is allowed leave for six months, under Article 348 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 2nd May, 1891.

Mr H W Gordon, District and Sessions Judge, Sarun, is allowed furlough for six months under Article 340(b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 7th May, 1891.

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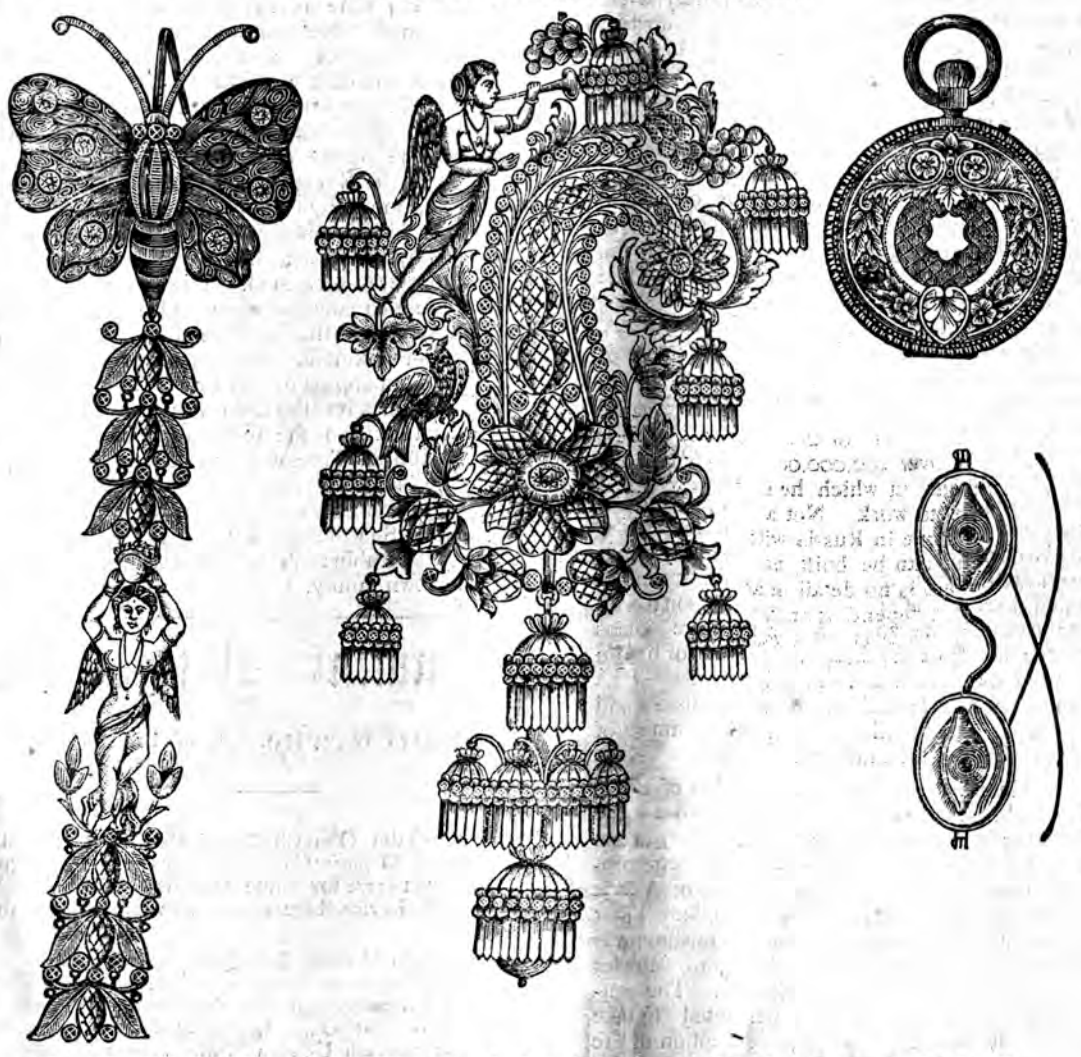

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